FREE COMIC BOOK DAY
BLOODSHOT
PLUS
FALLEN WORLD
PRELUDE STORY
VALIANT
8 58992 00301 7
FCBD

This book is provided in digital form with the permission of the rightsholder as part of
Google project to make the world's books discoverable online.

The rightsholder has graciously given you the freedom to download all pages of thi
book. No additional commercial or other uses have been granted.

Please note that all copyrights remain reserved.

**About Google Books**

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally
accessible and useful. Google Books helps readers discover the world's books while
helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the fu
text of this book on the web at http://books.google.com/

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY™

# BLOODSHOT®

PLUS

## FALLEN WORLD™

PRELUDE STORY

VALIANT.

# FCBD SPECIAL

VALIANT

**Dan Mintz**
Chairman

**Fred Pierce**
Publisher

**Walter Black**
VP Operations

**Matthew Klein**
VP Sales & Marketing

**Robert Meyers**
Senior Editorial Director

**Mel Caylo**
Director of Marketing

**Travis Escarfullery**
Director of Design & Production

**Peter Stern**
Director of International
Publishing & Merchandising

**Karl Bollers**
Senior Editor

**Lysa Hawkins**
**Heather Antos**
Editors

**David Menchel**
Associate Editor

**Drew Baumgartner**
Assistant Editor

**Jeff Walker**
Production & Design Manager

**Julia Walchuk**
Sales & Live Events Manager

**Emily Hecht**
Sales & Social Media Manager

**Connor Hill**
Sales Operations Coordinator

**Danielle Ward**
Sales Manager

**Gregg Katzman**
Marketing Coordinator

**Russ Brown**
President, Consumer
Products, Promotions
& Ad Sales

**Oliver Taylor**
International Licensing Coordinator

**Zane Warman**
Domestic Licensing Coordinator

**VALIANT: BLOODSHOT FCBD 2019 SPECIAL**
MAY 2019
Published by: VALIANT ENTERTAINMENT LLC.
Office of publication: 350 Seventh Avenue,
New York, NY 10001 Copyright © 2019 Valiant
Entertainment LLC. All rights reserved.
All characters, their distinctive likenesses
and related indicia featured in this
publication are trademarks of Valiant
Entertainment LLC. The stories,
characters, and incidents featured in
this publication are entirely fictional.
Printed in the USA. First Printing.
For more information, please visit
ValiantEntertainment.com.

## CONTENTS

3 **BLOODSHOT (2019)** PRELUDE
WRITER - TIM SEELEY
PENCILS - TOMÁS GIORELLO
COLORS - DIEGO RODRIGUEZ
LETTERS - DAVE SHARPE

16 **BLOODSHOT (2019)**
Interview with Tim Seeley

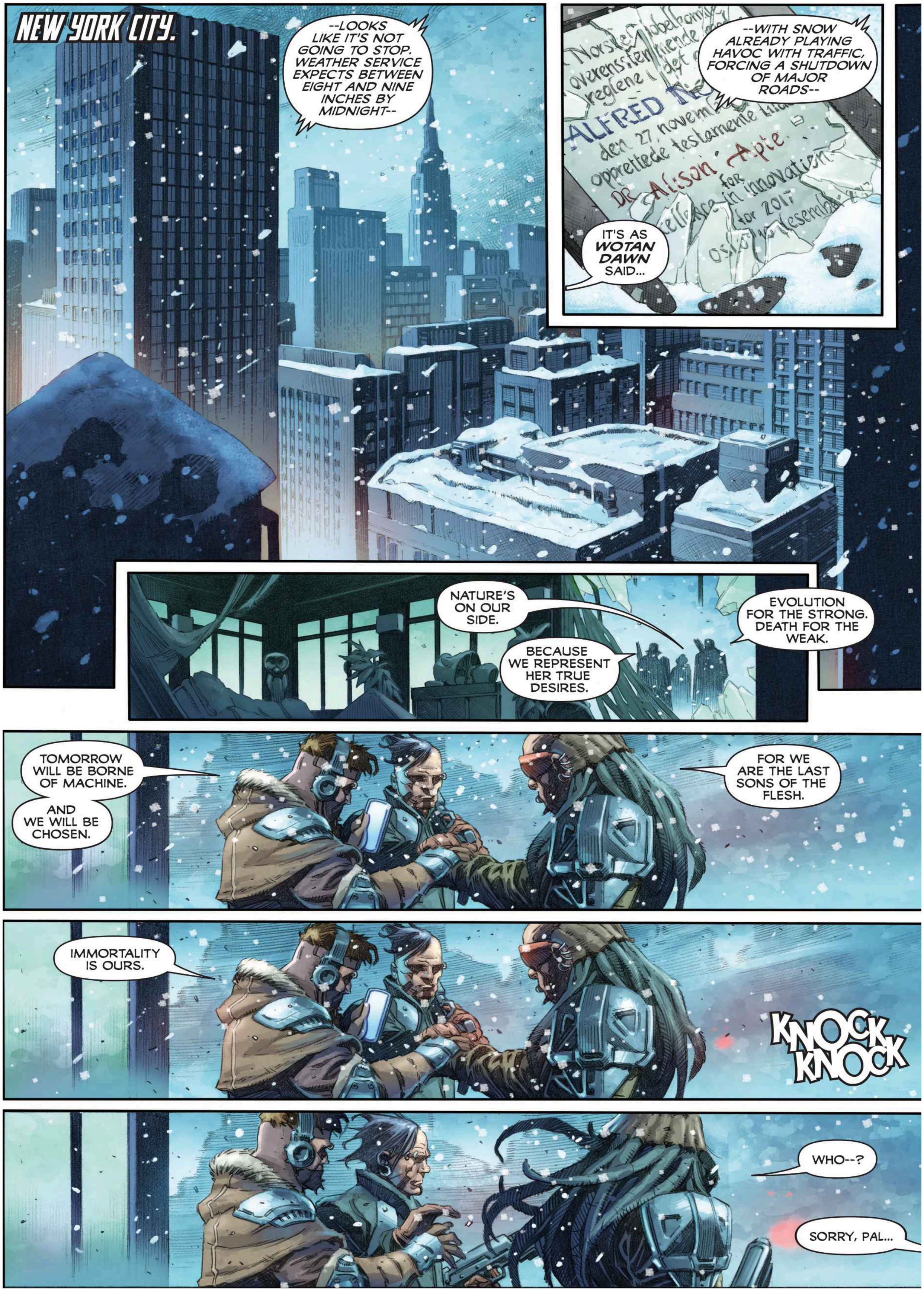
18 **FALLEN WORLD** PRELUDE
WRITER - DAN ABNETT
PENCILS - JUAN JOSÉ RYP
COLORS - ANDREW DALHOUSE
LETTERS - JEFF POWELL

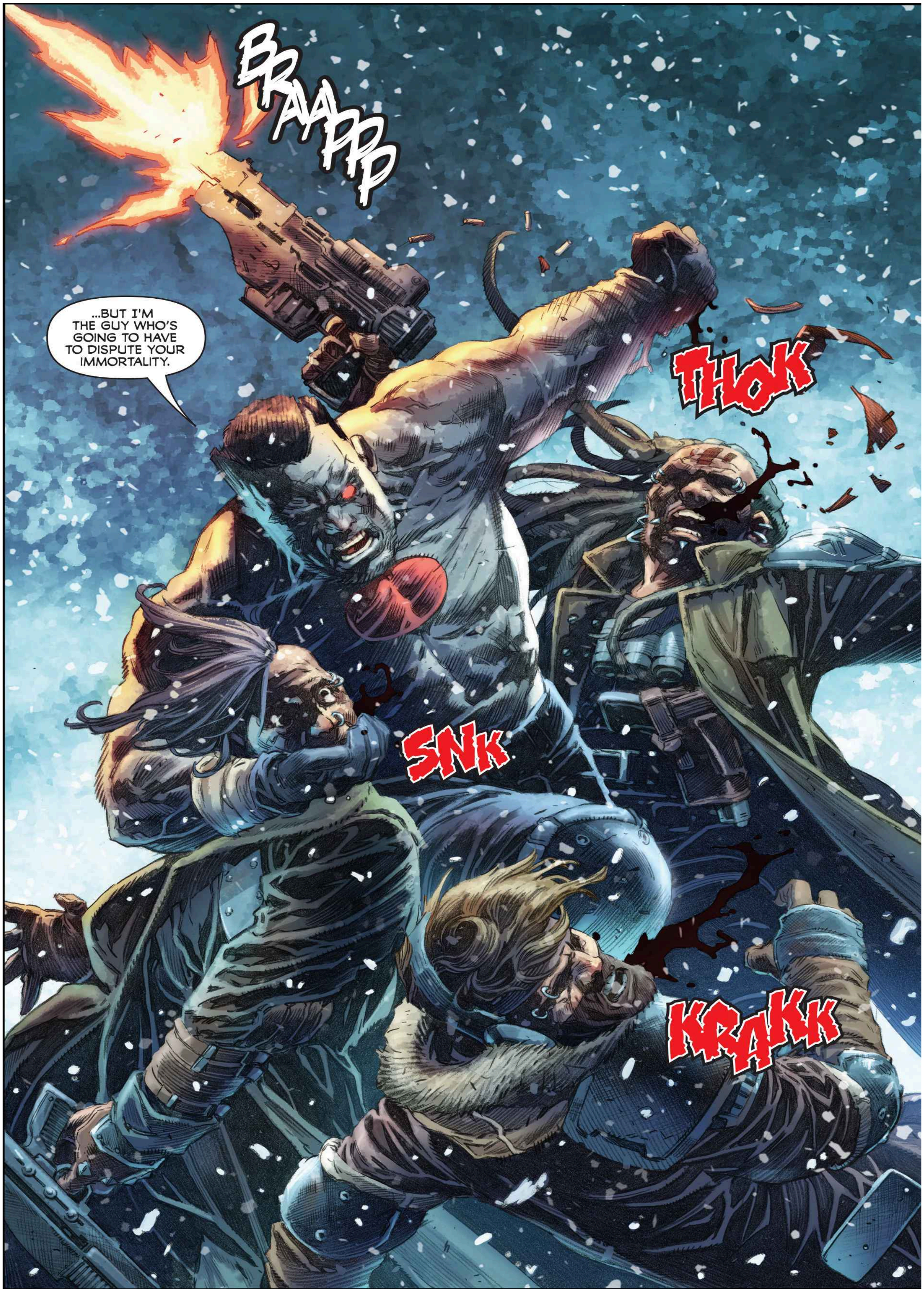
26 **FALLEN WORLD**
Interview with Dan Abnett

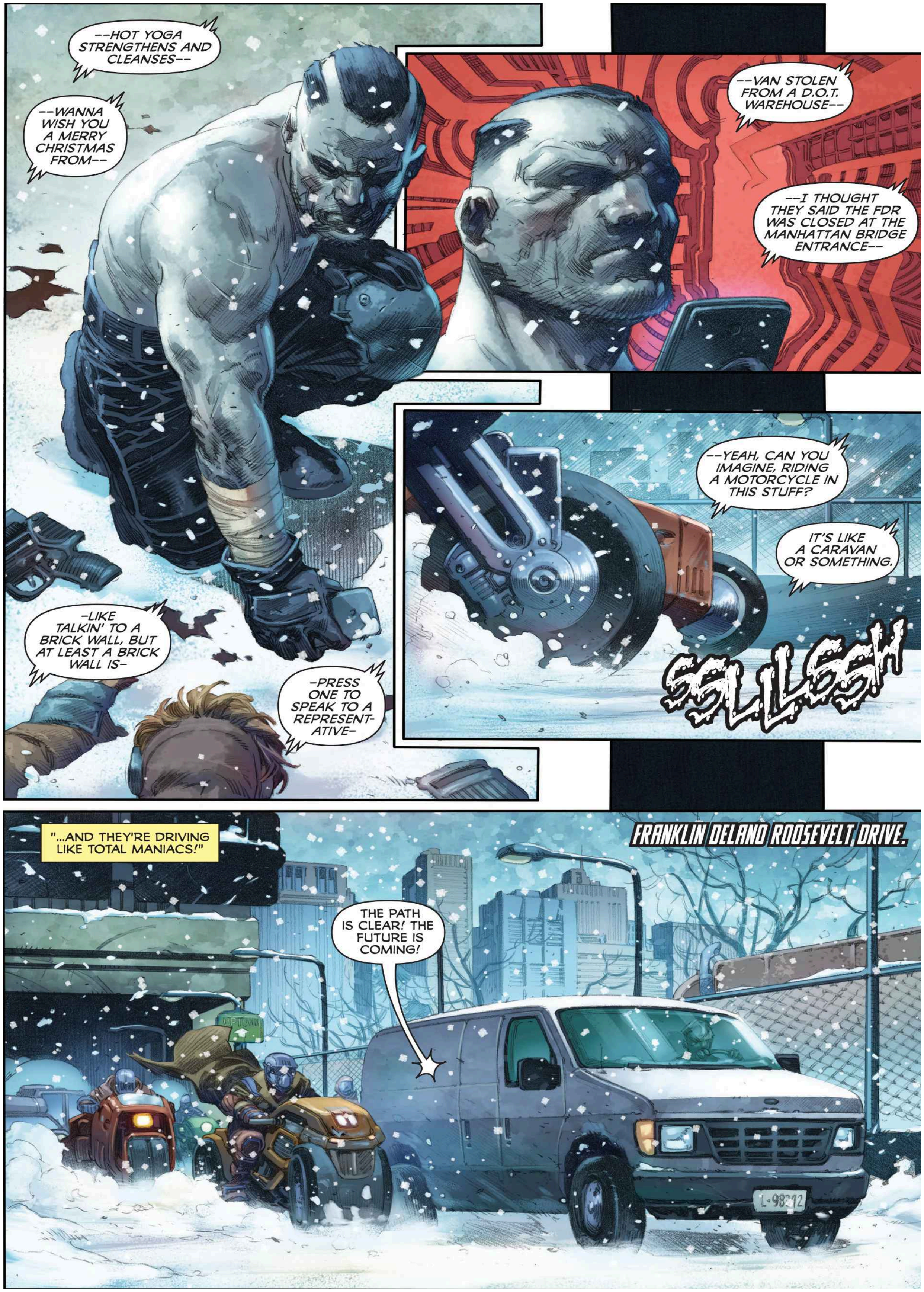
28 **PSI-LORDS**
Interview with Fred Van Lente

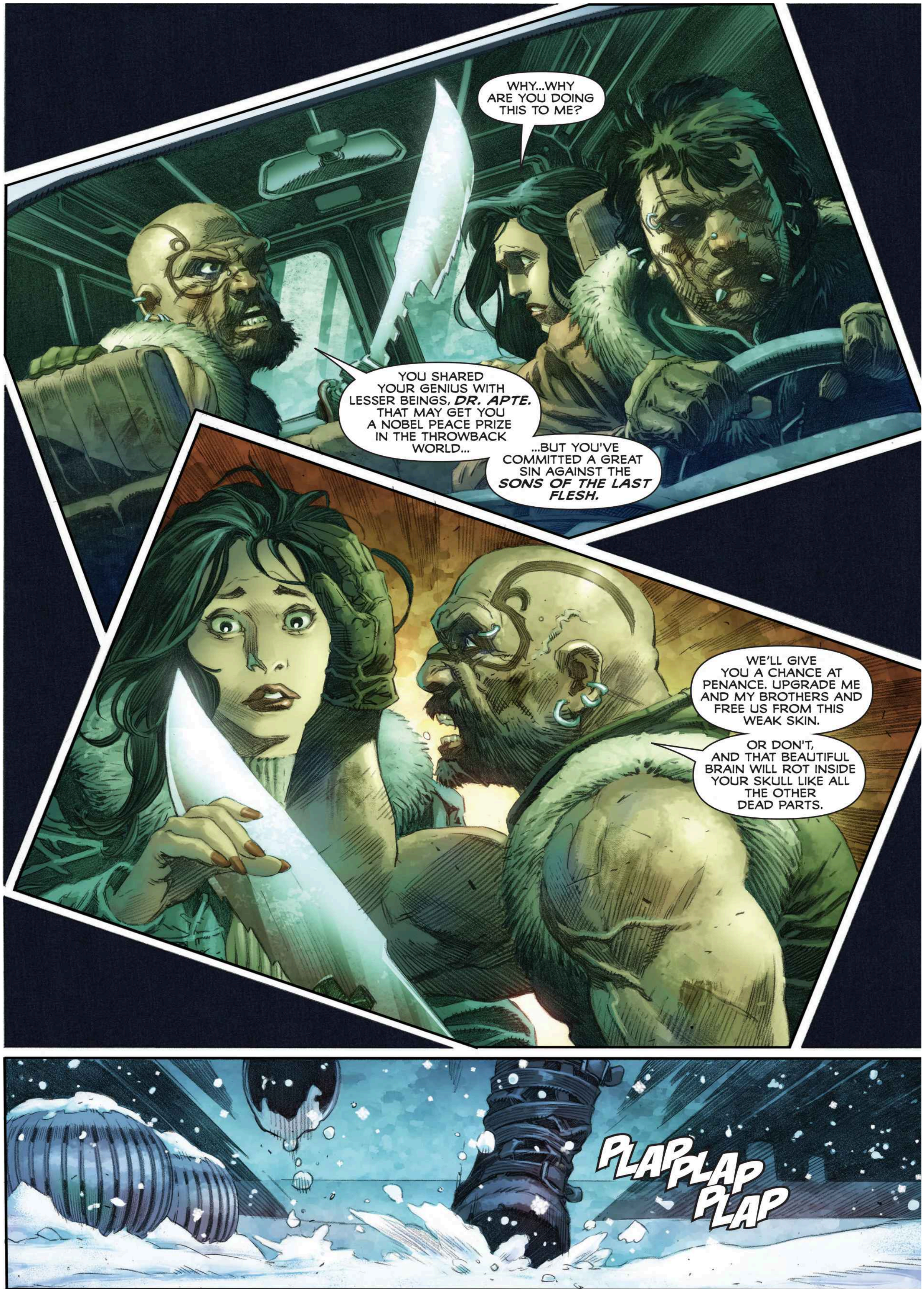
Cover Artist: Dan Brereton

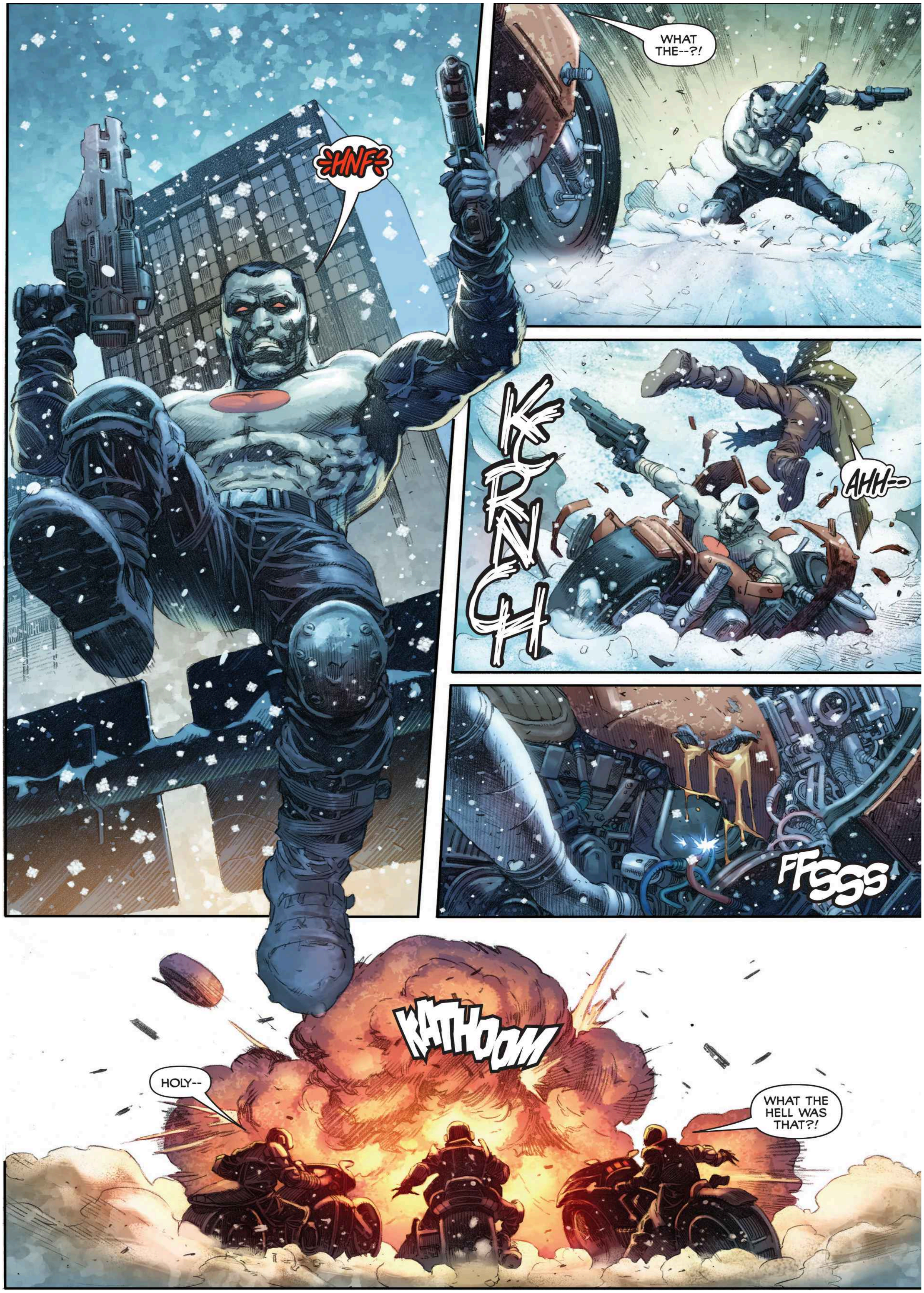
**VALIANT: BLOODSHOT FCBD 2019 SPECIAL**
Associate Editor: **DAVID MENCHEL**
Senior Editor: **KARL BOLLERS**
Senior Editorial Director: **ROBERT MEYERS**
Production and Design: **TRAVIS ESCARFULLERY**

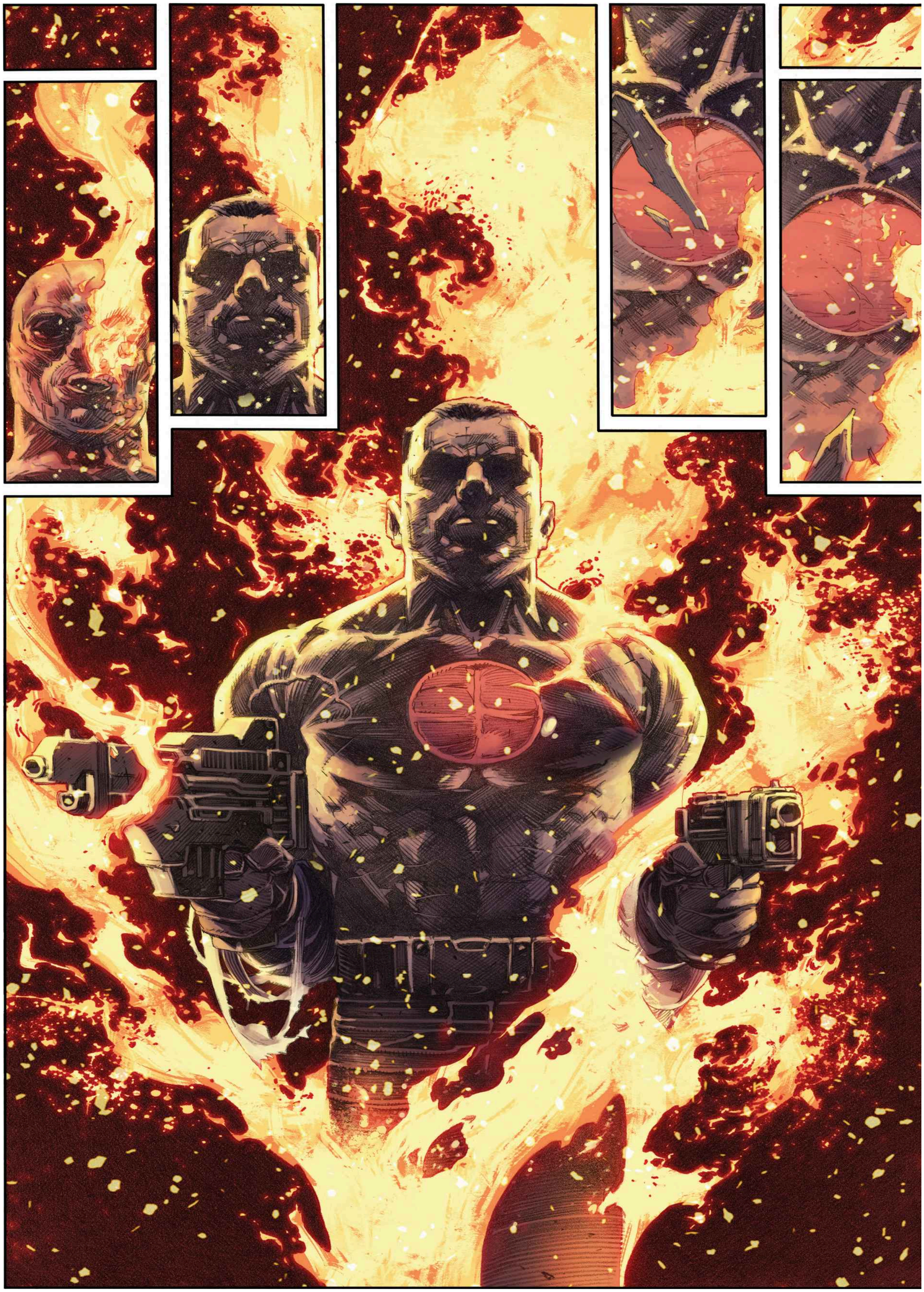

NEW YORK CITY.
--LOOKS LIKE IT'S NOT GOING TO STOP. WEATHER SERVICE EXPECTS BETWEEN EIGHT AND NINE INCHES BY MIDNIGHT--
--WITH SNOW ALREADY PLAYING HAVOC WITH TRAFFIC, FORCING A SHUTDOWN OF MAJOR ROADS--
ALFRED N
den 27. novemb
opprettede testamente
DR Alison Apte
for
for 2017
IT'S AS WOTAN DAWN SAID...
NATURE'S ON OUR SIDE.
BECAUSE WE REPRESENT HER TRUE DESIRES.
EVOLUTION FOR THE STRONG. DEATH FOR THE WEAK.
TOMORROW WILL BE BORNE OF MACHINE.
AND WE WILL BE CHOSEN.
FOR WE ARE THE LAST SONS OF THE FLESH.
IMMORTALITY IS OURS.
KNOCK KNOCK
WHO--?
SORRY, PAL...

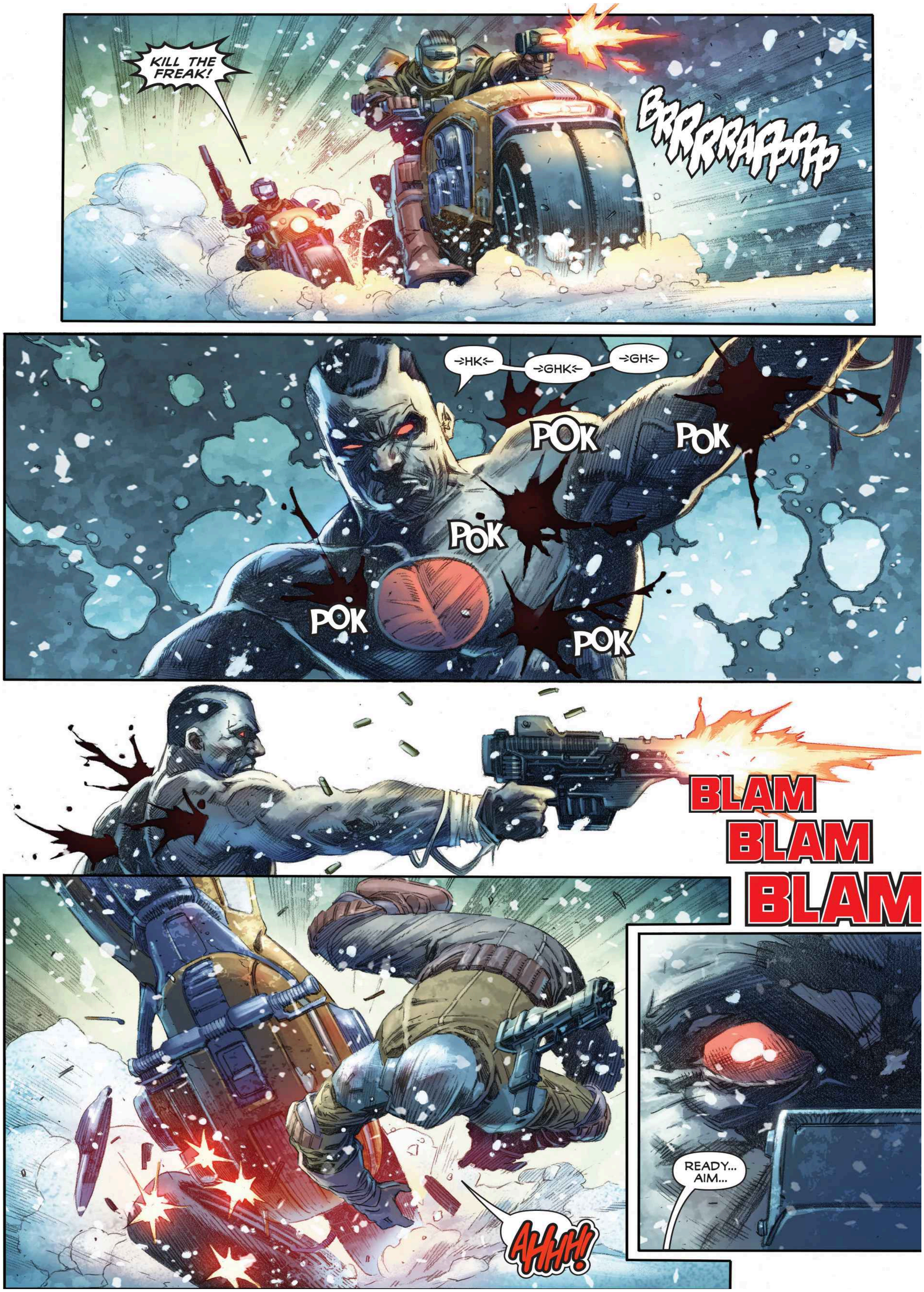

BRAAPPP
...BUT I'M THE GUY WHO'S GOING TO HAVE TO DISPUTE YOUR IMMORTALITY.
THOK
SNK
KRAKK

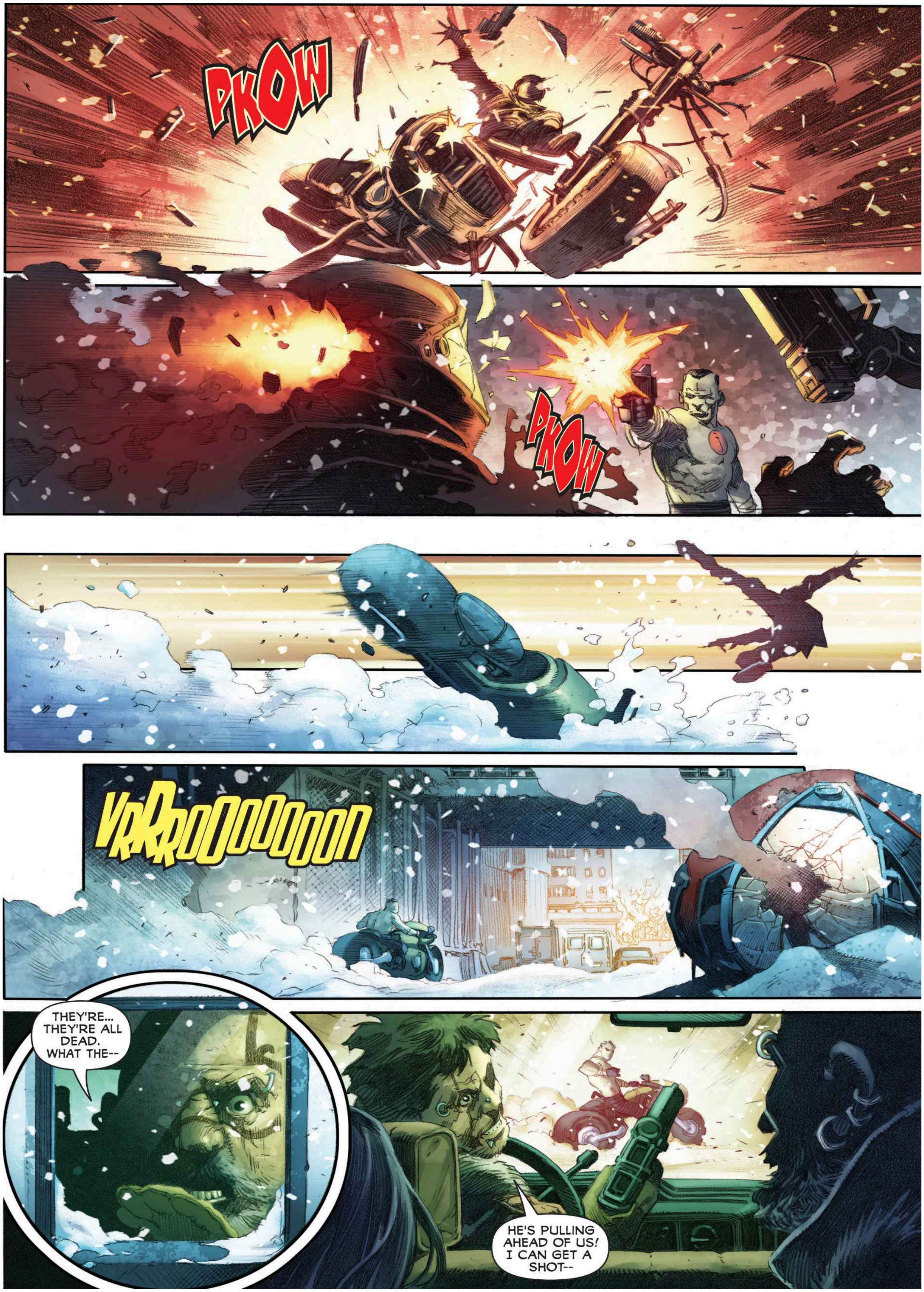

--HOT YOGA STRENGTHENS AND CLEANSES--
--WANNA WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM--
--VAN STOLEN FROM A D.O.T. WAREHOUSE--
--I THOUGHT THEY SAID THE FDR WAS CLOSED AT THE MANHATTAN BRIDGE ENTRANCE--
--YEAH, CAN YOU IMAGINE, RIDING A MOTORCYCLE IN THIS STUFF?
IT'S LIKE A CARAVAN OR SOMETHING.
-LIKE TALKIN' TO A BRICK WALL, BUT AT LEAST A BRICK WALL IS-
-PRESS ONE TO SPEAK TO A REPRESENTATIVE-
SSLLSSH
"...AND THEY'RE DRIVING LIKE TOTAL MANIACS!"
FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT DRIVE.
THE PATH IS CLEAR! THE FUTURE IS COMING!
UPTOWN
L-98212

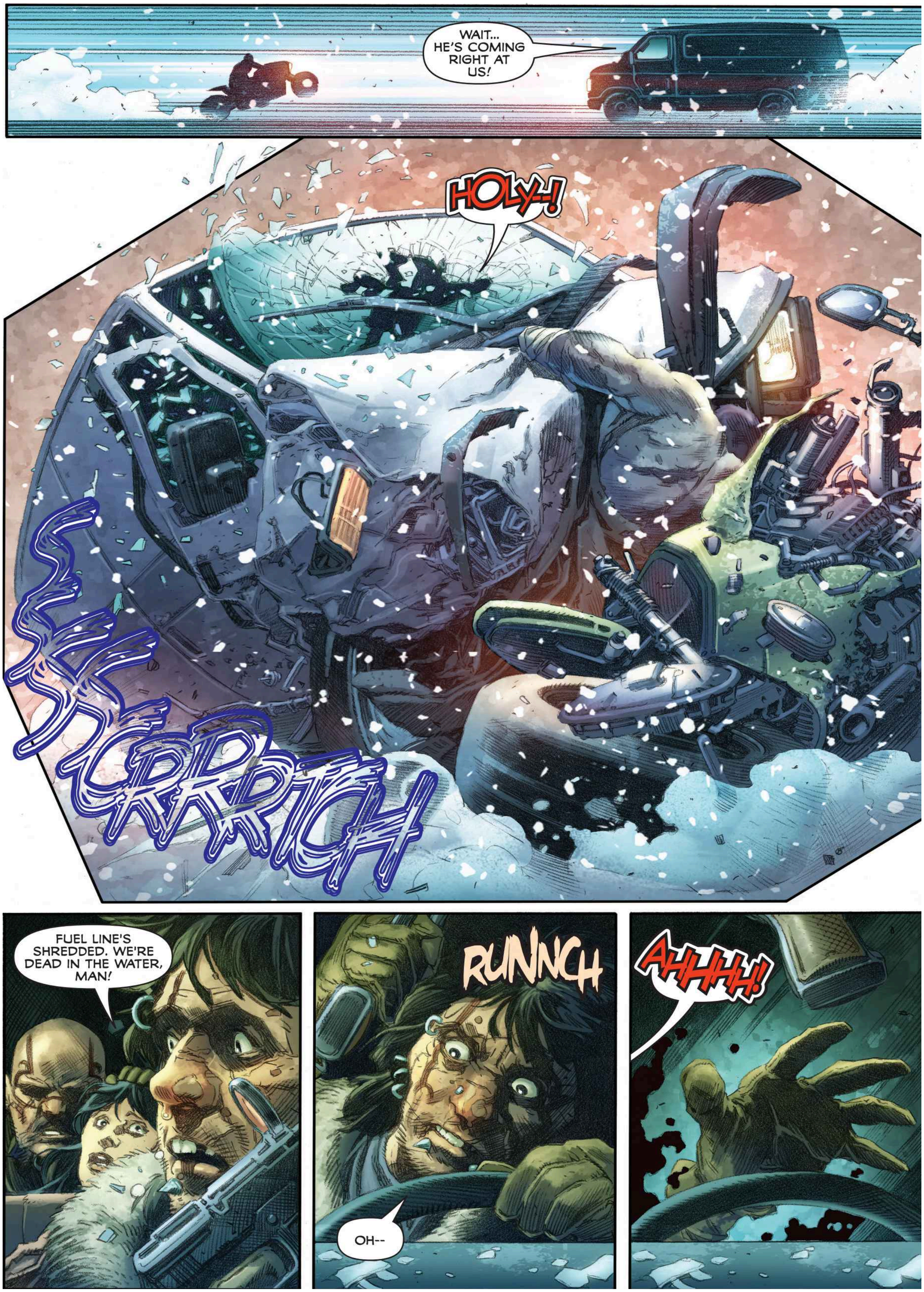

WHY...WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME?
YOU SHARED YOUR GENIUS WITH LESSER BEINGS, ***DR. APTE.*** THAT MAY GET YOU A NOBEL PEACE PRIZE IN THE THROWBACK WORLD...
...BUT YOU'VE COMMITTED A GREAT SIN AGAINST THE ***SONS OF THE LAST FLESH.***
WE'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE AT PENANCE. UPGRADE ME AND MY BROTHERS AND FREE US FROM THIS WEAK SKIN.
OR DON'T, AND THAT BEAUTIFUL BRAIN WILL ROT INSIDE YOUR SKULL LIKE ALL THE OTHER DEAD PARTS.
PLAP PLAP PLAP PLAP

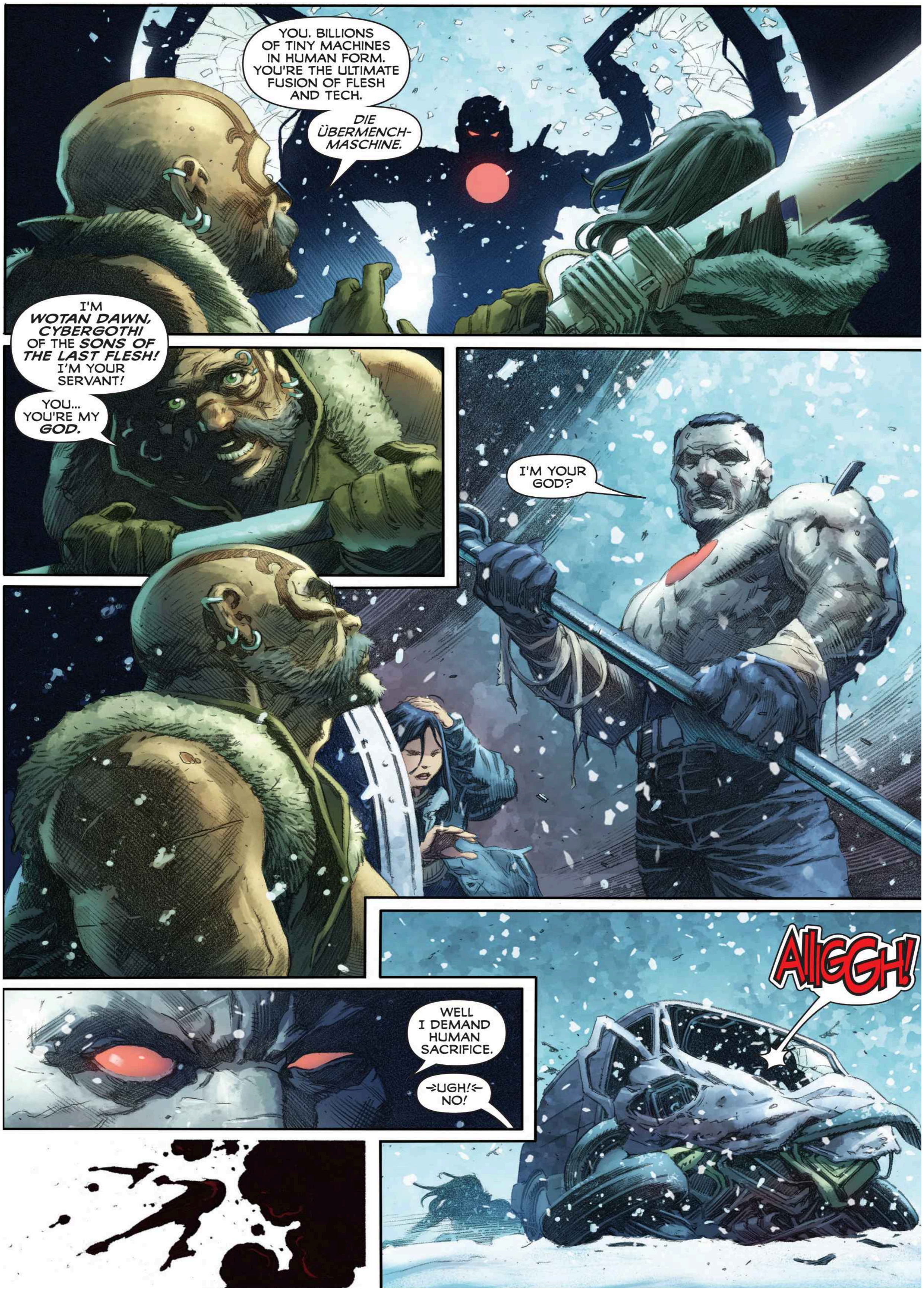

HNF
WHAT THE--?!
KRNCH
AHH--
FFSSS
KATHOOM
HOLY--
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!

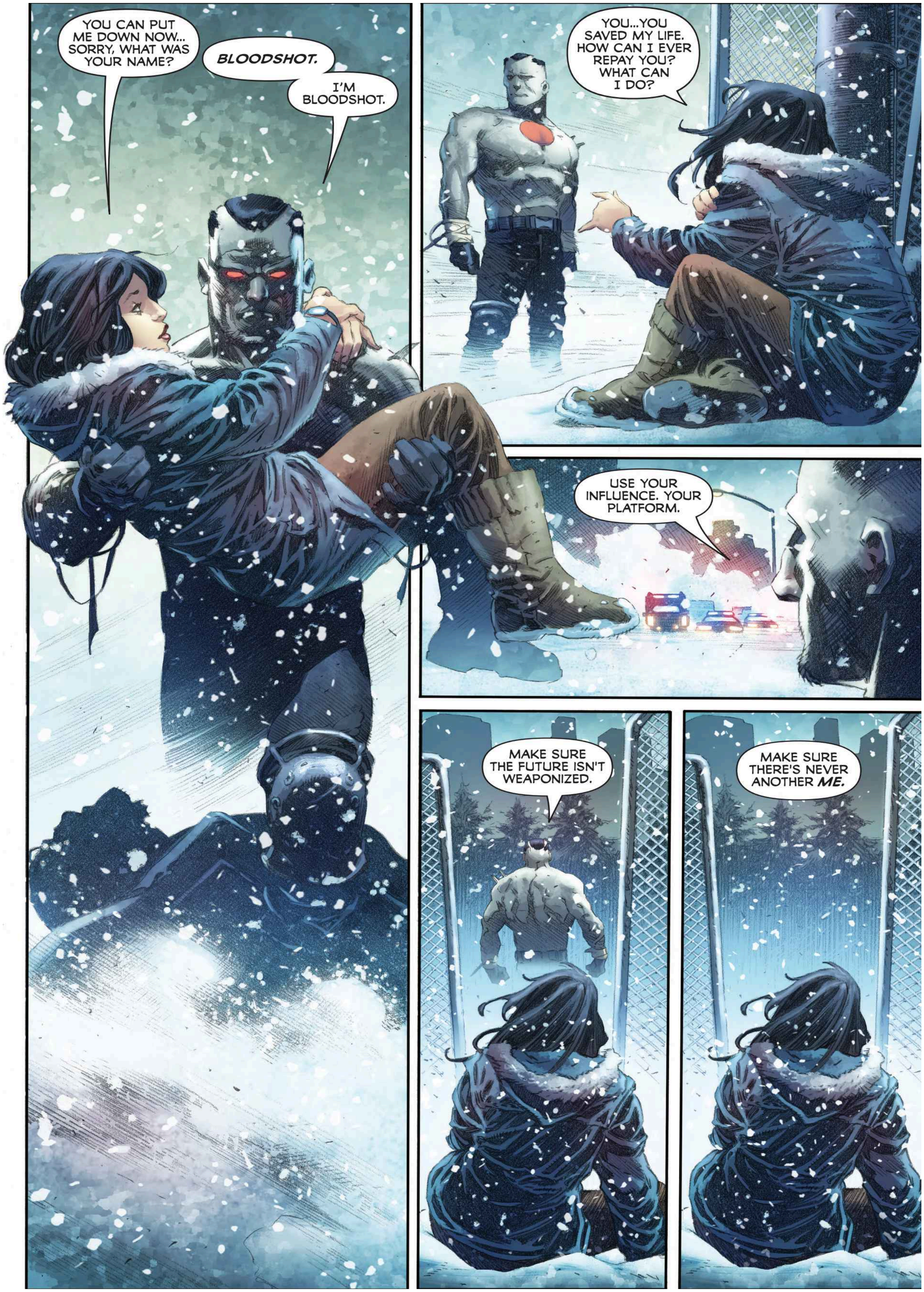



KILL THE FREAK!
BRRRRAPPPPP
HK
GHK
GH
POK
POK
POK
POK
POK
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
AHHH!
READY... AIM...


PKOW
PKOW
VRRROOOOOOOOON
THEY'RE... THEY'RE ALL DEAD. WHAT THE--
HE'S PULLING AHEAD OF US! I CAN GET A SHOT--

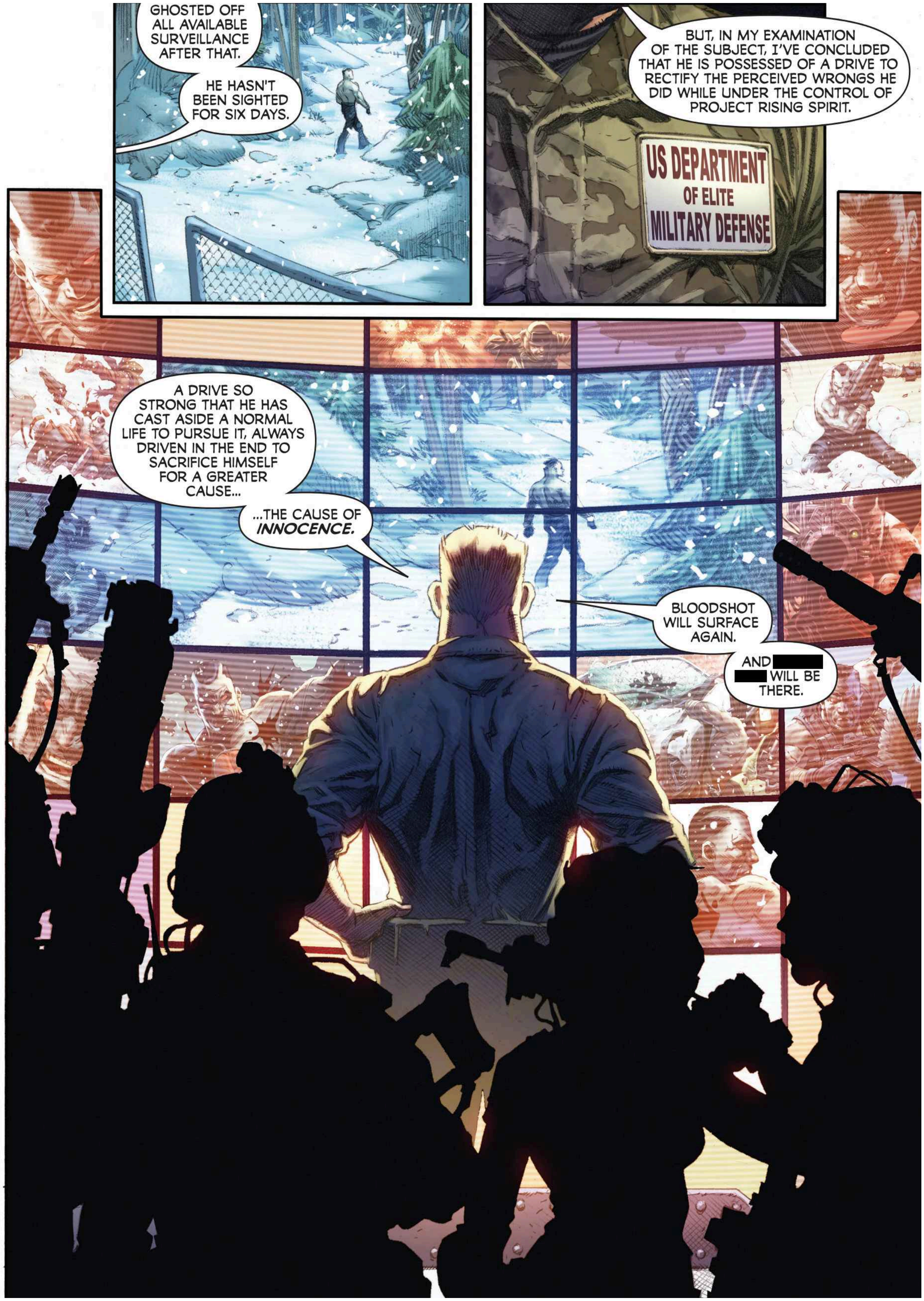

WAIT... HE'S COMING RIGHT AT US!
HOLY--!
SCRRRITCH
FUEL LINE'S SHREDDED. WE'RE DEAD IN THE WATER, MAN!
RUNNCH
OH--
AHHHH!


YOU. BILLIONS OF TINY MACHINES IN HUMAN FORM. YOU'RE THE ULTIMATE FUSION OF FLESH AND TECH.
*DIE ÜBERMENCH-MASCHINE.*
I'M ***WOTAN DAWN, CYBERGOTHI*** OF THE ***SONS OF THE LAST FLESH!*** I'M YOUR SERVANT!
YOU... YOU'RE MY ***GOD.***
I'M YOUR GOD?
WELL I DEMAND HUMAN SACRIFICE.
AIIGGH!
~UGH!~ NO!


YOU CAN PUT ME DOWN NOW... SORRY, WHAT WAS YOUR NAME?
BLOODSHOT.
I'M BLOODSHOT.
YOU...YOU SAVED MY LIFE. HOW CAN I EVER REPAY YOU? WHAT CAN I DO?
USE YOUR INFLUENCE. YOUR PLATFORM.
MAKE SURE THE FUTURE ISN'T WEAPONIZED.
MAKE SURE THERE'S NEVER ANOTHER ME.

SUBJECT

TO BE CONTINUED
THIS FALL IN


GHOSTED OFF ALL AVAILABLE SURVEILLANCE AFTER THAT.
HE HASN'T BEEN SIGHTED FOR SIX DAYS.
BUT, IN MY EXAMINATION OF THE SUBJECT, I'VE CONCLUDED THAT HE IS POSSESSED OF A DRIVE TO RECTIFY THE PERCEIVED WRONGS HE DID WHILE UNDER THE CONTROL OF PROJECT RISING SPIRIT.
US DEPARTMENT OF ELITE MILITARY DEFENSE
A DRIVE SO STRONG THAT HE HAS CAST ASIDE A NORMAL LIFE TO PURSUE IT, ALWAYS DRIVEN IN THE END TO SACRIFICE HIMSELF FOR A GREATER CAUSE...
...THE CAUSE OF *INNOCENCE.*
BLOODSHOT WILL SURFACE AGAIN.
AND [redacted] [redacted] WILL BE THERE.

THIS FALL IN
BLOODSHOT #1!

# TAKING HIS SHOT

**This Fall, writer Tim Seeley takes on Bloodshot in a brand-new ongoing series and promises not to get too much into the supersoldier's head**

*By Ernie Estrella of Syfy Wire*

We hope you enjoyed this brand-new Bloodshot story created especially for Free Comic Book Day. It's a sneak peek into writer **Tim Seeley's** upcoming BLOODSHOT series launching this Fall. Here, **Ernie Estrella from Syfy Wire** talks with Seeley about working on Valiant's unstoppable supersoldier.

**SYFY WIRE:** What did you want to set out and establish with Bloodshot in this new series and the present-day Valiant Universe?

**TIM SEELEY:** *I wanted to figure out a way to take ol' Bloodshot back to his core concept, and make the series really feel unique and very specific. This is Bloodshot. This is what he does. This is why. This is his world. But on top of that, I wanted to add lots of big action and ideas - this is an unlimited-budget action movie. So, what I hope you get is an action comic that's clear and simple and spare, but also LOADED WITH IDEAS.*

**SYFY WIRE:** Will your ongoing series refer back to what is going on in *Bloodshot Rising Spirit*, which has been unpacking his early days and origins?

**SEELEY:** *Not necessarily. There are a lot of toys in the chest, but this series is looking to focus on the shiny new ones.*

**SYFY WIRE:** In this Free Comic Book Day story, we see a lot of people reacting to Bloodshot and those lives affected by him, and while we do hear him speak, we don't get into his head. Are you deliberately choosing to stay out of his point of view?

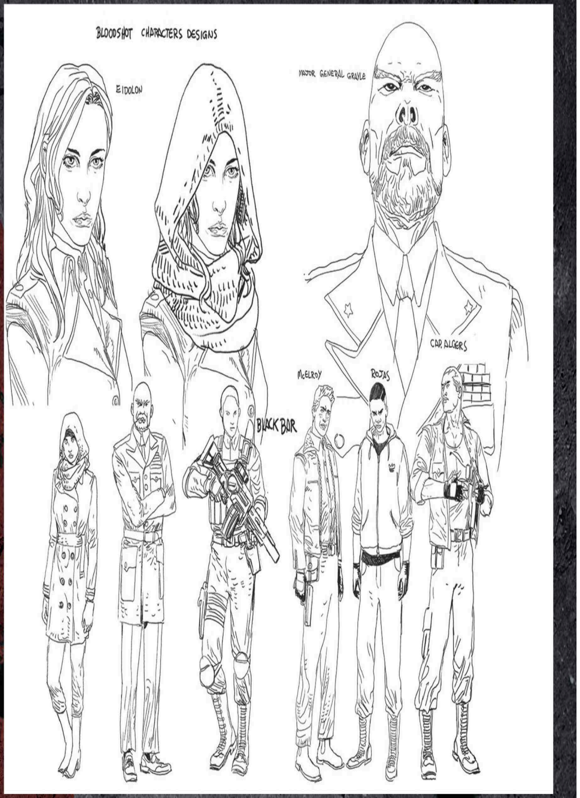
**SEELEY:** *Yes! I kind of hate writing first-person narration. I want you to see what these people think by what they do and how they react to others. And, with Bloodshot especially, we're talking about a character who is somewhat of a mystery, and I think spending too much time in his head might ruin that a bit.*

**SYFY WIRE:** I enjoyed a lot of the panels in the Free Comic Book Day story where it was absent dialogue but he was this imposing, almost Terminator-like presence. How much do you play with scenes like this?

**SEELEY:** *As often as possible! And I think what you're seeing there is [artist] Tomás [Giorello's] ability to make anything and everything look super badass.*

**SYFY WIRE:** We see these guys calling themselves the Last Sons of the Flesh, and they're disposed of quickly, but are they part of a larger story?

**SEELEY:** *Not immediately, but I'm the kind of guy who lays down a lot of groundwork to pick up later. Plantin' seeds, I say. So, there are plenty of ways to bring those dudes back in.*



CHARACTER DESIGNS BY AMILCAR PINNA

**SYFY WIRE:** What did you enjoy about working with Tomás?

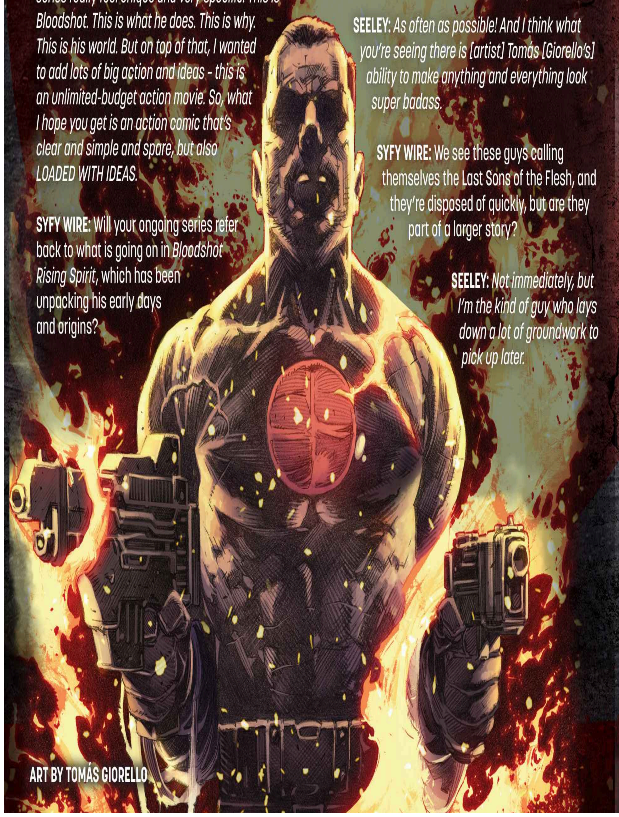
**SEELEY:** *He's a storyteller above all. All his choices are made in service to the story, and he doesn't cheat the reader to get a cool drawing. He just happens to make everything cool!*

**SYFY WIRE:** Are there any other major characters from the Valiant Universe that you're looking to play with, that you can tell or tease us about?

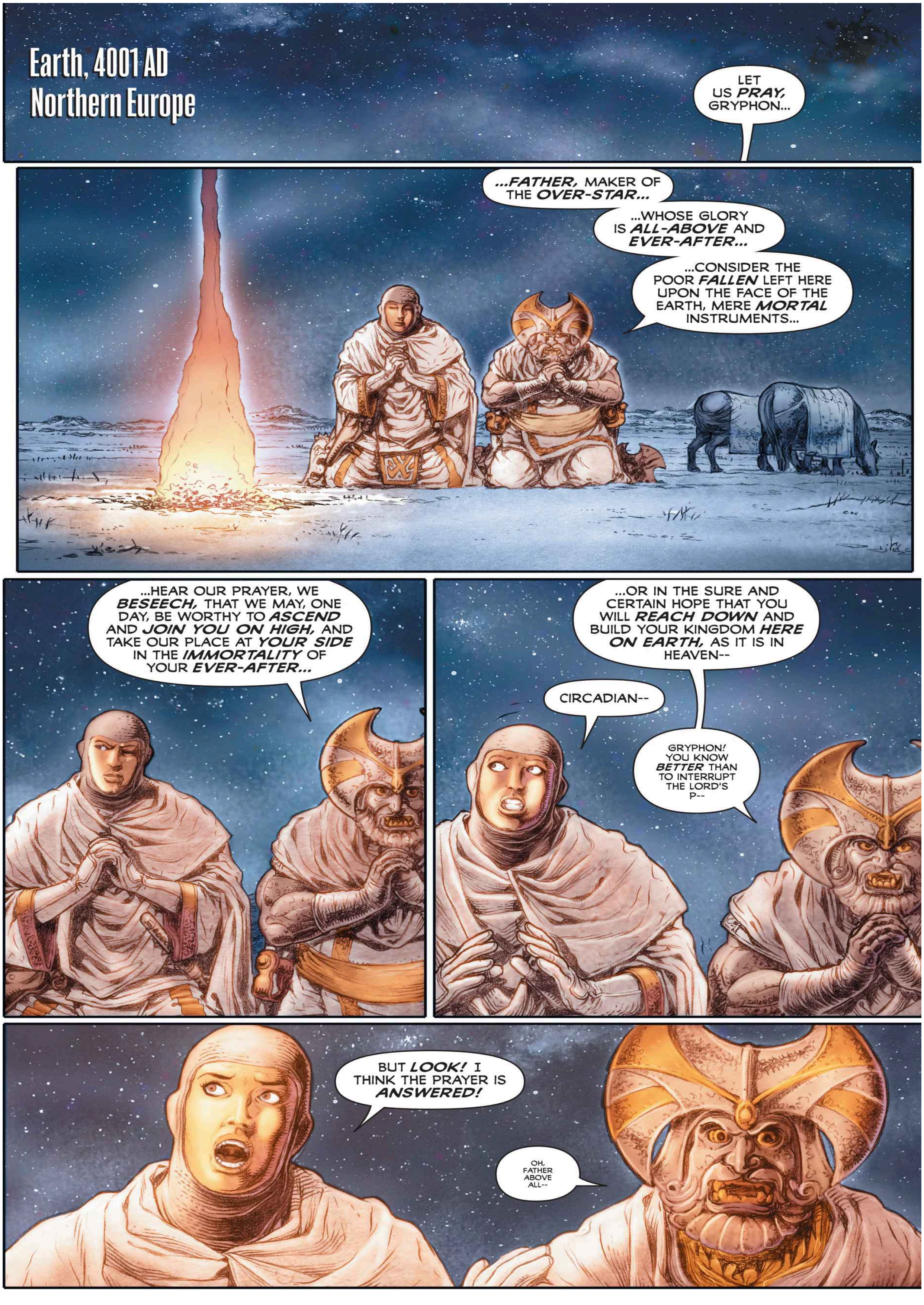
**SEELEY:** *We won't be bringing in too many titular heroes in the beginning, but I have some ideas down the road. I'm not doing this right if I don't have Bloodshot tangle with X-O [Manowar] at some point.* ■

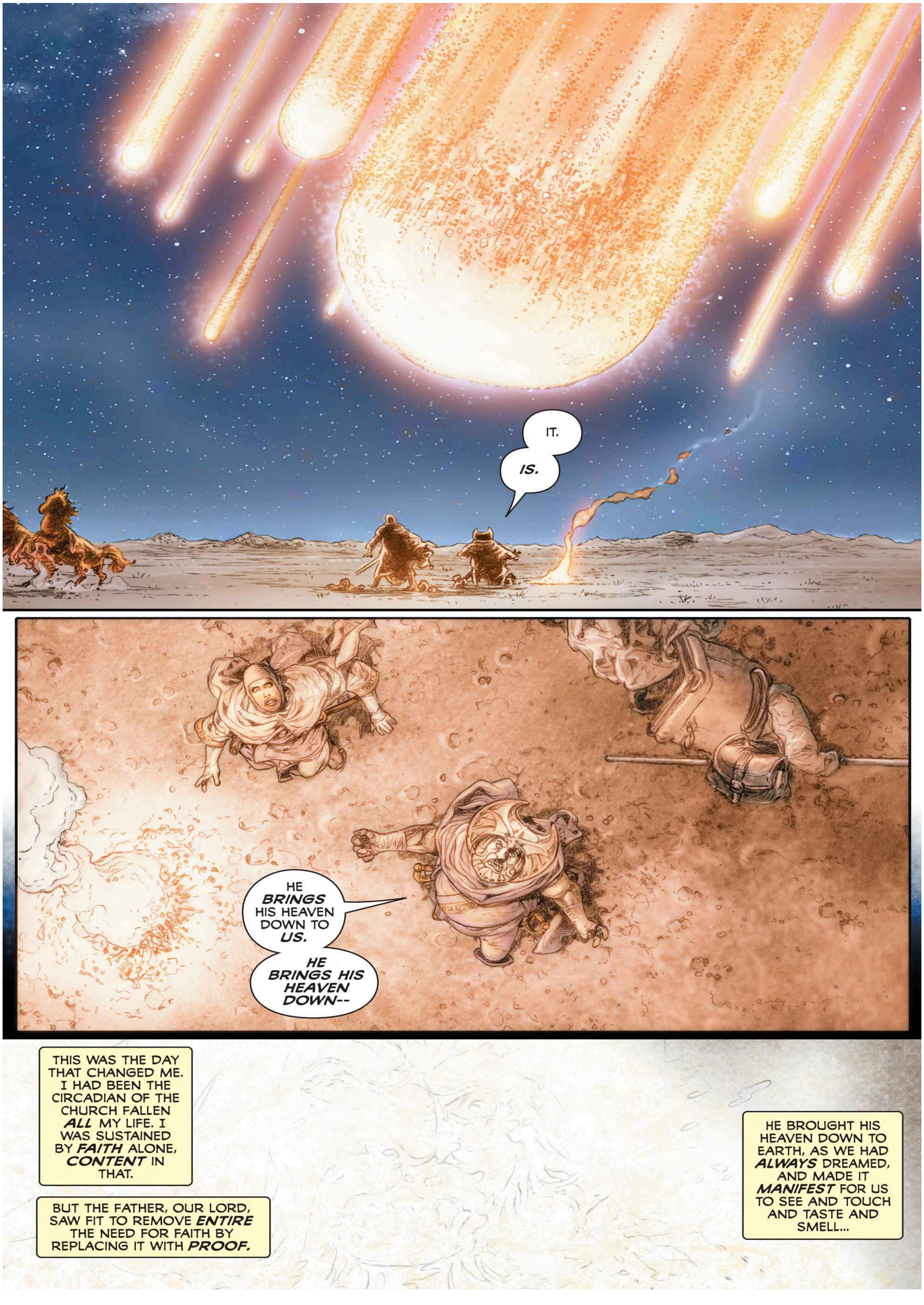
---

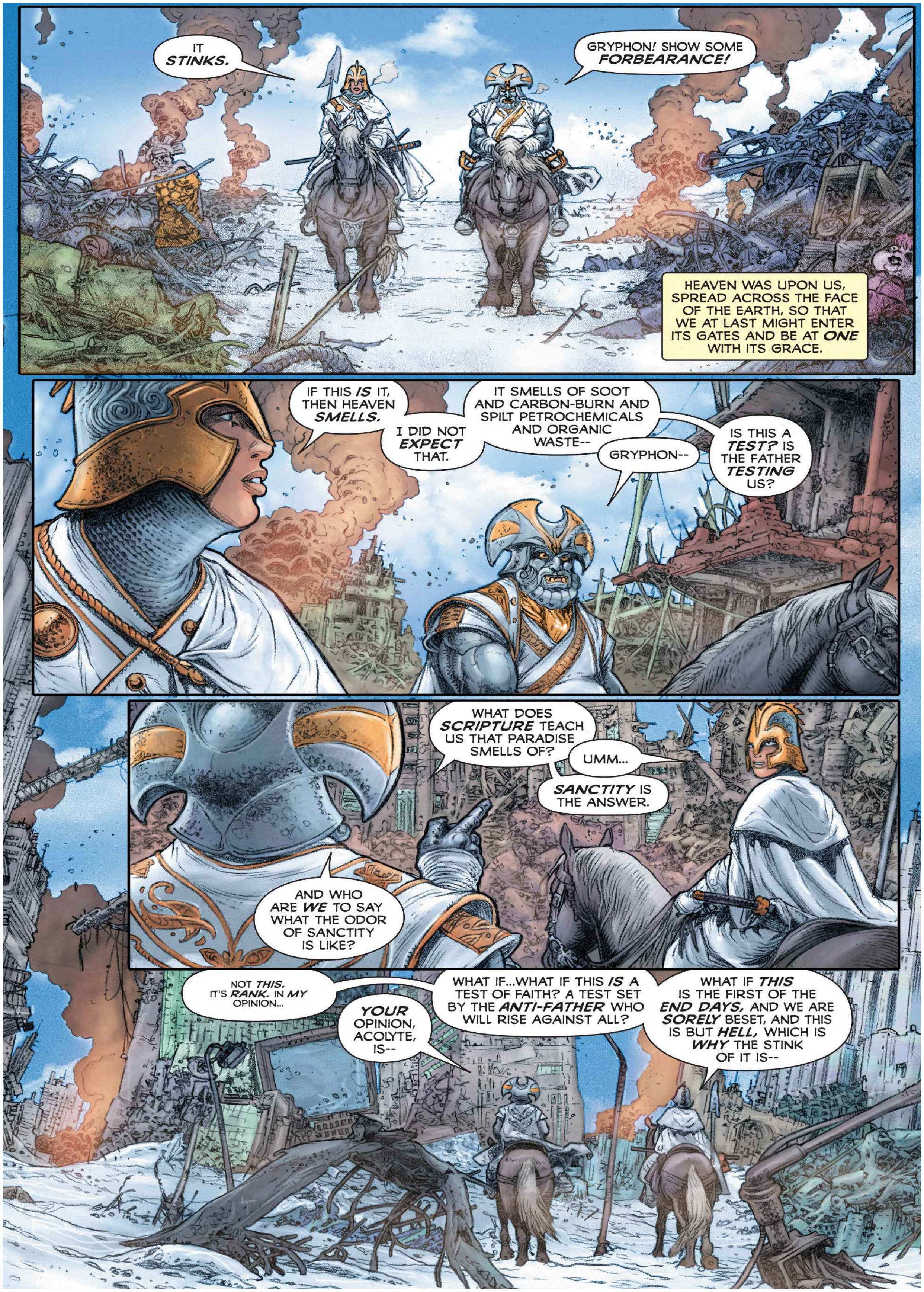
**Special thanks to Ernie Estrella of Syfy Wire. For his full interview with Tim Seeley, visit www.syfy.com.**

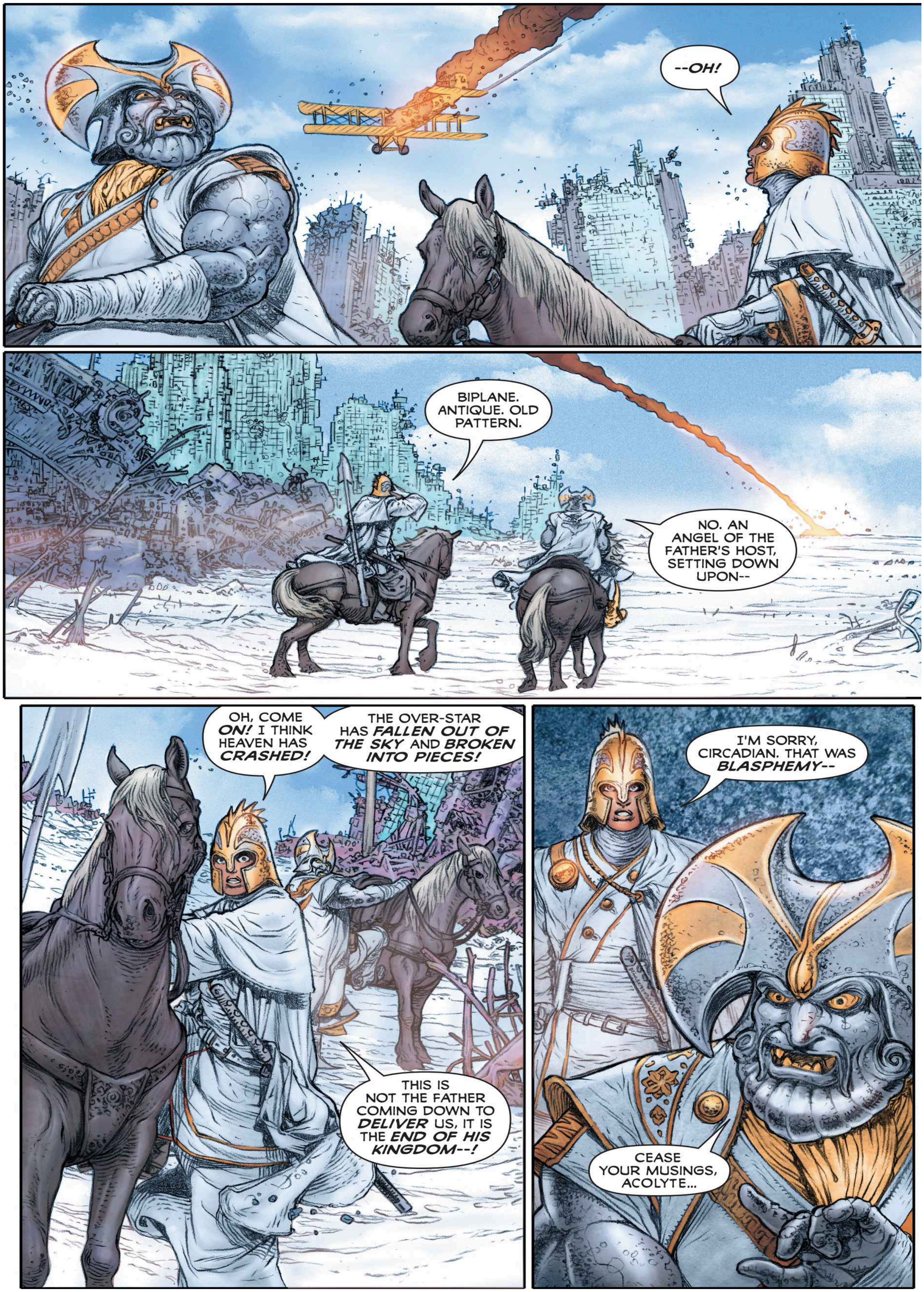


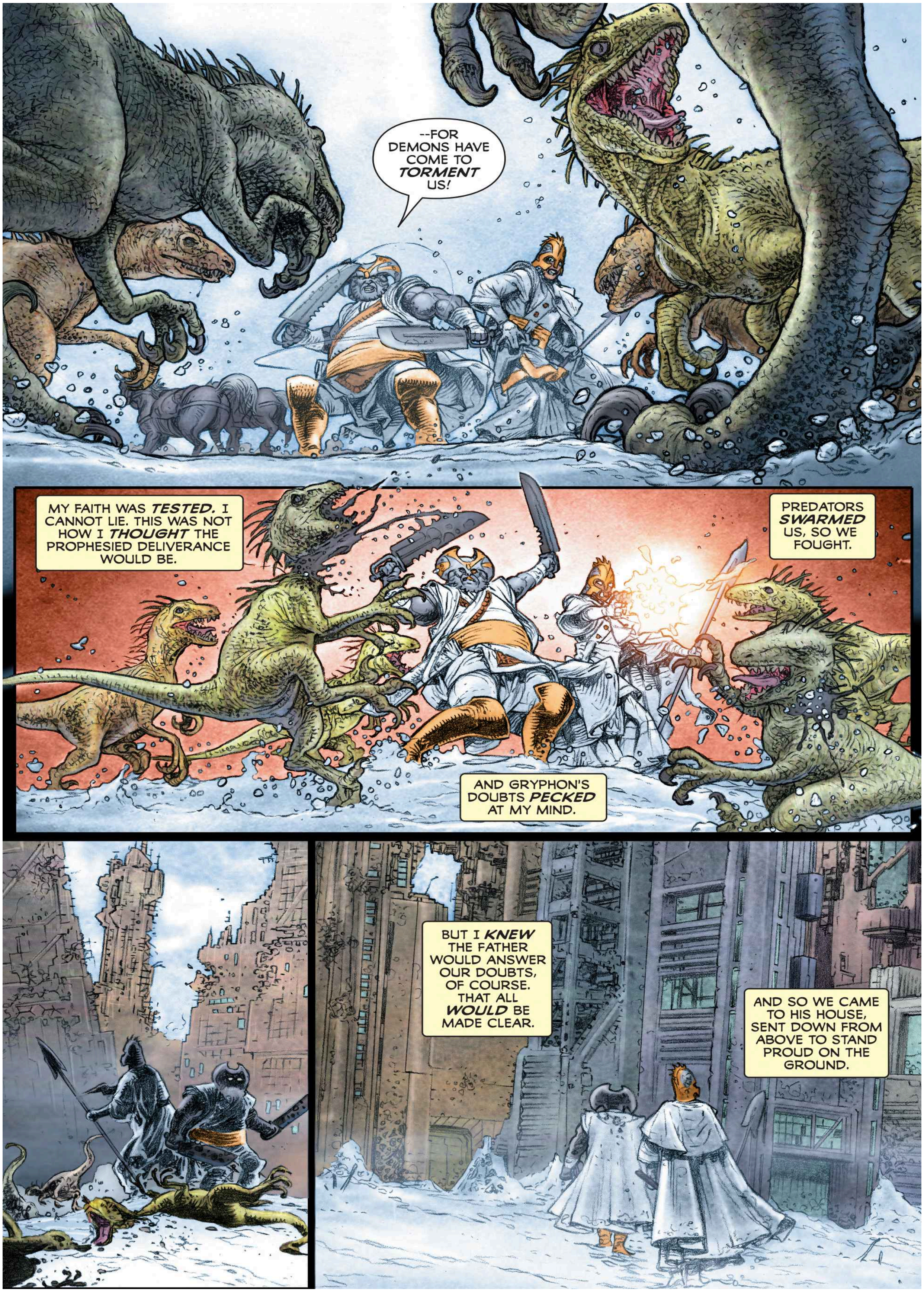
ART BY TOMÁS GIORELLO

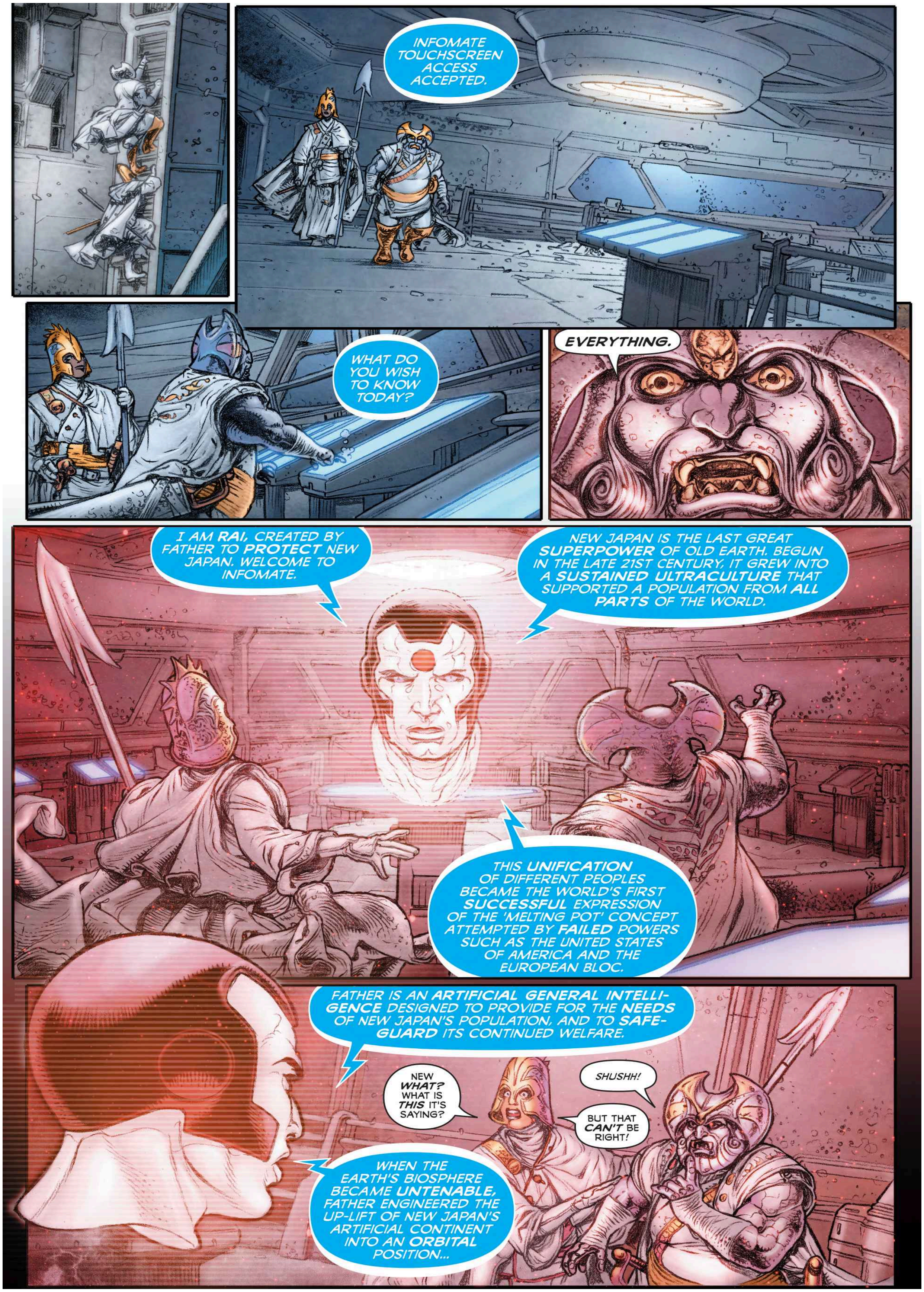

Earth, 4001 AD
Northern Europe
LET US PRAY, GRYPHON...
...FATHER, MAKER OF THE OVER-STAR...
...WHOSE GLORY IS ALL-ABOVE AND EVER-AFTER...
...CONSIDER THE POOR FALLEN LEFT HERE UPON THE FACE OF THE EARTH, MERE MORTAL INSTRUMENTS...
...HEAR OUR PRAYER, WE BESEECH, THAT WE MAY, ONE DAY, BE WORTHY TO ASCEND AND JOIN YOU ON HIGH, AND TAKE OUR PLACE AT YOUR SIDE IN THE IMMORTALITY OF YOUR EVER-AFTER...
...OR IN THE SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE THAT YOU WILL REACH DOWN AND BUILD YOUR KINGDOM HERE ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN--
CIRCADIAN--
GRYPHON! YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO INTERRUPT THE LORD'S P--
BUT LOOK! I THINK THE PRAYER IS ANSWERED!
OH, FATHER ABOVE ALL--

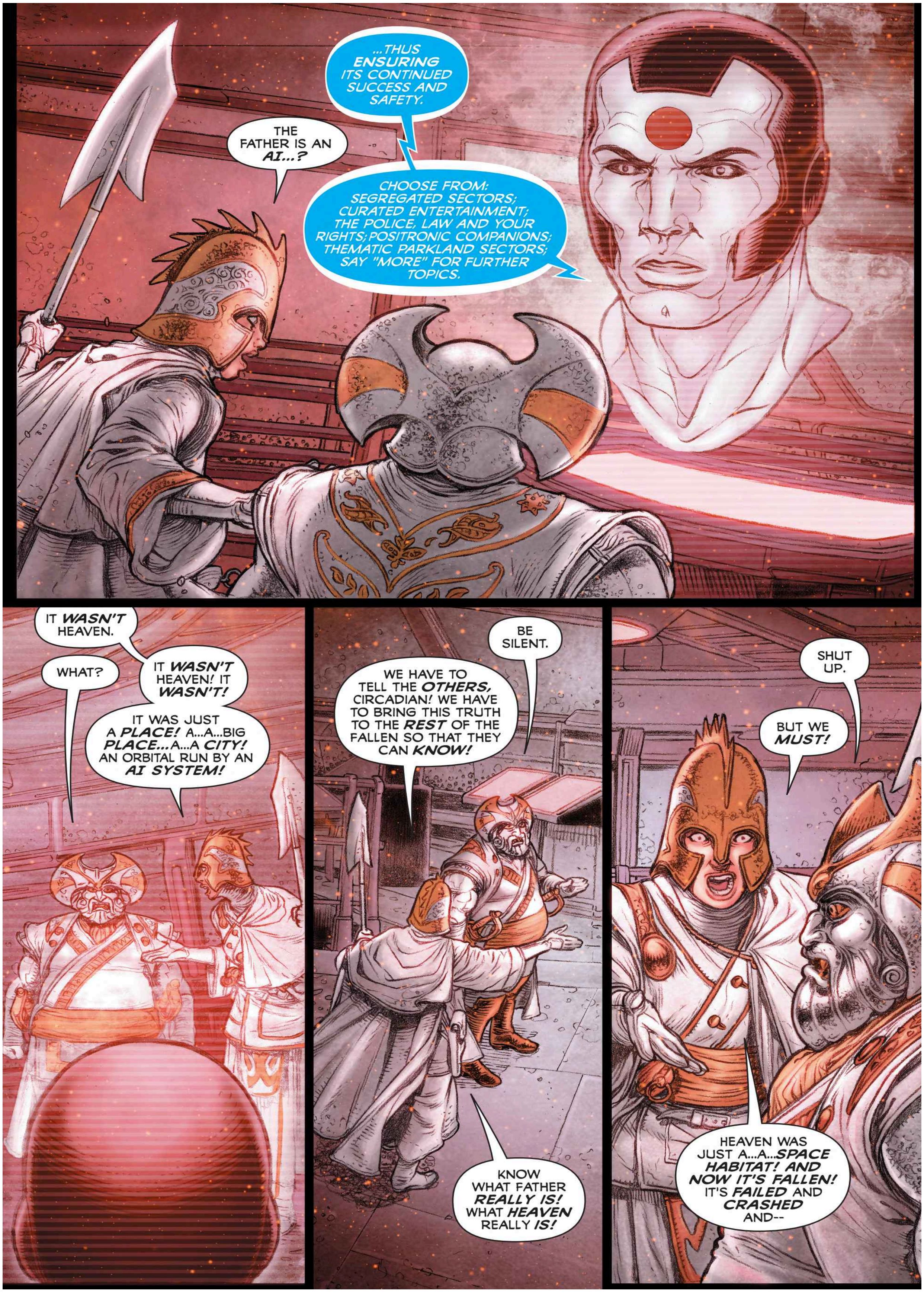

IT.
IS.
HE BRINGS HIS HEAVEN DOWN TO US.
HE BRINGS HIS HEAVEN DOWN--
THIS WAS THE DAY THAT CHANGED ME. I HAD BEEN THE CIRCADIAN OF THE CHURCH FALLEN ALL MY LIFE. I WAS SUSTAINED BY FAITH ALONE, CONTENT IN THAT.
BUT THE FATHER, OUR LORD, SAW FIT TO REMOVE ENTIRE THE NEED FOR FAITH BY REPLACING IT WITH PROOF.
HE BROUGHT HIS HEAVEN DOWN TO EARTH, AS WE HAD ALWAYS DREAMED, AND MADE IT MANIFEST FOR US TO SEE AND TOUCH AND TASTE AND SMELL...

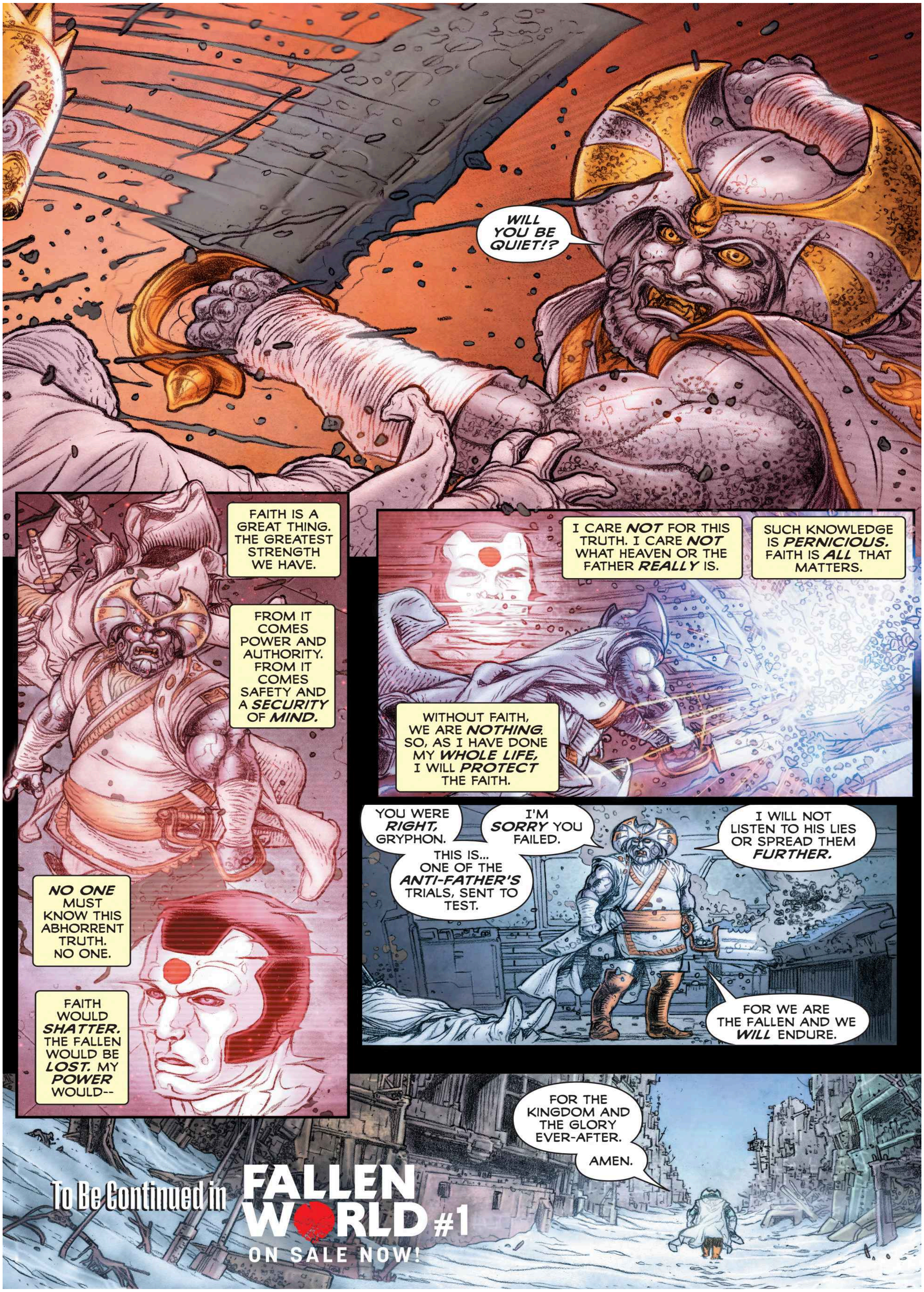

IT *STINKS.*
GRYPHON! SHOW SOME *FORBEARANCE!*
HEAVEN WAS UPON US, SPREAD ACROSS THE FACE OF THE EARTH, SO THAT WE AT LAST MIGHT ENTER ITS GATES AND BE AT *ONE* WITH ITS GRACE.
IF THIS *IS* IT, THEN HEAVEN *SMELLS.*
I DID NOT *EXPECT* THAT.
IT SMELLS OF SOOT AND CARBON-BURN AND SPILT PETROCHEMICALS AND ORGANIC WASTE--
GRYPHON--
IS THIS A *TEST?* IS THE FATHER *TESTING* US?
WHAT DOES *SCRIPTURE* TEACH US THAT PARADISE SMELLS OF?
UMM...
*SANCTITY* IS THE ANSWER.
AND WHO ARE *WE* TO SAY WHAT THE ODOR OF SANCTITY IS LIKE?
NOT *THIS.* IT'S *RANK.* IN *MY* OPINION...
*YOUR* OPINION, ACOLYTE, IS--
WHAT IF...WHAT IF THIS *IS* A TEST OF FAITH? A TEST SET BY THE *ANTI-FATHER* WHO WILL RISE AGAINST ALL?
WHAT IF *THIS* IS THE FIRST OF THE *END DAYS,* AND WE ARE *SORELY* BESET, AND THIS IS BUT *HELL,* WHICH IS *WHY* THE STINK OF IT IS--


--OH!
BIPLANE. ANTIQUE. OLD PATTERN.
NO. AN ANGEL OF THE FATHER'S HOST, SETTING DOWN UPON--
OH, COME *ON!* I THINK HEAVEN HAS *CRASHED!*
THE OVER-STAR HAS *FALLEN OUT OF THE SKY* AND *BROKEN INTO PIECES!*
THIS IS NOT THE FATHER COMING DOWN TO *DELIVER* US, IT IS THE *END OF HIS KINGDOM--!*
I'M SORRY, CIRCADIAN. THAT WAS *BLASPHEMY--*
CEASE YOUR MUSINGS, ACOLYTE...


--FOR DEMONS HAVE COME TO *TORMENT* US!
MY FAITH WAS *TESTED.* I CANNOT LIE. THIS WAS NOT HOW I *THOUGHT* THE PROPHESIED DELIVERANCE WOULD BE.
PREDATORS *SWARMED* US, SO WE FOUGHT.
AND GRYPHON'S DOUBTS *PECKED* AT MY MIND.
BUT I *KNEW* THE FATHER WOULD ANSWER OUR DOUBTS, OF COURSE. THAT ALL *WOULD* BE MADE CLEAR.
AND SO WE CAME TO HIS HOUSE, SENT DOWN FROM ABOVE TO STAND PROUD ON THE GROUND.


INFOMATE TOUCHSCREEN ACCESS ACCEPTED.
WHAT DO YOU WISH TO KNOW TODAY?
EVERYTHING.
I AM RAI, CREATED BY FATHER TO PROTECT NEW JAPAN. WELCOME TO INFOMATE.
NEW JAPAN IS THE LAST GREAT SUPERPOWER OF OLD EARTH. BEGUN IN THE LATE 21ST CENTURY, IT GREW INTO A SUSTAINED ULTRACULTURE THAT SUPPORTED A POPULATION FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.
THIS UNIFICATION OF DIFFERENT PEOPLES BECAME THE WORLD'S FIRST SUCCESSFUL EXPRESSION OF THE 'MELTING POT' CONCEPT ATTEMPTED BY FAILED POWERS SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE EUROPEAN BLOC.
FATHER IS AN ARTIFICIAL GENERAL INTELLIGENCE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF NEW JAPAN'S POPULATION, AND TO SAFEGUARD ITS CONTINUED WELFARE.
NEW WHAT? WHAT IS THIS IT'S SAYING?
SHUSHH!
BUT THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!
WHEN THE EARTH'S BIOSPHERE BECAME UNTENABLE, FATHER ENGINEERED THE UP-LIFT OF NEW JAPAN'S ARTIFICIAL CONTINENT INTO AN ORBITAL POSITION...


...THUS ENSURING ITS CONTINUED SUCCESS AND SAFETY.
THE FATHER IS AN AI...?
CHOOSE FROM: SEGREGATED SECTORS; CURATED ENTERTAINMENT; THE POLICE, LAW AND YOUR RIGHTS; POSITRONIC COMPANIONS; THEMATIC PARKLAND SECTORS; SAY "MORE" FOR FURTHER TOPICS.
IT WASN'T HEAVEN.
WHAT?
IT WASN'T HEAVEN! IT WASN'T!
IT WAS JUST A PLACE! A...A...BIG PLACE...A...A CITY! AN ORBITAL RUN BY AN AI SYSTEM!
BE SILENT.
WE HAVE TO TELL THE OTHERS, CIRCADIAN! WE HAVE TO BRING THIS TRUTH TO THE REST OF THE FALLEN SO THAT THEY CAN KNOW!
KNOW WHAT FATHER REALLY IS! WHAT HEAVEN REALLY IS!
SHUT UP.
BUT WE MUST!
HEAVEN WAS JUST A...A...SPACE HABITAT! AND NOW IT'S FALLEN! IT'S FAILED AND CRASHED AND--


WILL YOU BE QUIET!?
FAITH IS A GREAT THING. THE GREATEST STRENGTH WE HAVE.
FROM IT COMES POWER AND AUTHORITY. FROM IT COMES SAFETY AND A SECURITY OF MIND.
NO ONE MUST KNOW THIS ABHORRENT TRUTH. NO ONE.
FAITH WOULD SHATTER. THE FALLEN WOULD BE LOST. MY POWER WOULD--
I CARE NOT FOR THIS TRUTH. I CARE NOT WHAT HEAVEN OR THE FATHER REALLY IS.
SUCH KNOWLEDGE IS PERNICIOUS. FAITH IS ALL THAT MATTERS.
WITHOUT FAITH, WE ARE NOTHING. SO, AS I HAVE DONE MY WHOLE LIFE, I WILL PROTECT THE FAITH.
YOU WERE RIGHT, GRYPHON.
I'M SORRY YOU FAILED.
THIS IS... ONE OF THE ANTI-FATHER'S TRIALS, SENT TO TEST.
I WILL NOT LISTEN TO HIS LIES OR SPREAD THEM FURTHER.
FOR WE ARE THE FALLEN AND WE WILL ENDURE.
FOR THE KINGDOM AND THE GLORY EVER-AFTER.
AMEN.
To Be Continued in FALLEN WORLD #1
ON SALE NOW!

# A 41ST-CENTURY WAR

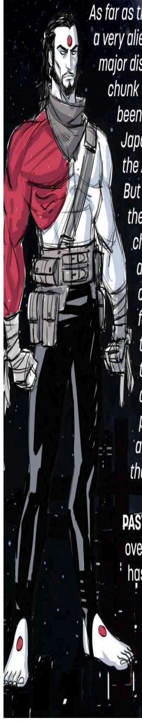
**Travel to FALLEN WORLD, where the future of the Valiant Universe will be determined by a conflict between a troubled cyber samurai named Rai and Bloodshot, an unstoppable killing machine..**

*By Steve Foxe of Paste Magazine*

What you've just read is only the beginning of the FALLEN WORLD saga, a brand-new story that's part sci-fi drama, part epic. The first issue by **Dan Abnett** and **Adam Pollina** is available NOW in comic book shops - most likely the very one where you picked up this issue! Read below as **Steve Foxe from Paste Magazine** talks with Abnett about working on this compelling drama.

**PASTE MAGAZINE: FALLEN WORLD kicks off after a pretty dramatic status quo change for the Valiant Universe of the year 4002. What do new readers need to know about Rai and the world around him to jump in with FALLEN WORLD?**

**DAN ABNETT:** *Honestly? Not much! I'm trying to do my level best to introduce characters and concepts as we go along, so no reader gets lost (though the previous stories are great and I'd encourage anyone interested in FALLEN WORLD to pick up the trades and back issues...just to enjoy some fantastic comics).*



CHARACTER DESIGN BY AJ JOTHIKUMAR

*As far as this goes... it's the future. Earth is a very alien place, slowly recovering after major disasters, remaking itself. A major chunk of the human population has been living in the orbital utopia of New Japan for centuries, looked after by the Artificial Intelligence, "Father". But Father was a bit of a tyrant on the quiet, and Rai - New Japan's champion - finally destroyed him and ended his reign for the good of all. As a result, New Japan fell, and the population is now trying to rebuild their culture on the "new Earth". It's a big, brave, and slightly scary new world for people who have been looked after by high-tech systems all their lives...*

**PASTE:** Now that Father's reign is over and the nation of New Japan has shattered, what other forces are vying for power in the vacuum? There've been hints of animal/human hybrids and dinosaurs roaming about...

**ABNETT:** Lots, both big and small. There are minor threats and immediate hazards to contend with, but bigger and badder trouble is brewing: a major technological menace that is literally a blast from the past AND a very horrible surprise for Rai, plus a powerful and determined society that worships the old, high-tech Japan and wants to preserve it and use it to gain mastery.

**PASTE:** In addition to Rai and a host of new characters, FALLEN WORLD features Valiant mainstay Bloodshot in a newly antagonistic role. What's it like reimagining one of the publisher's foundational heroes (or antiheroes) as a villain? Or does Bloodshot still see himself as fighting for what's right?

**ABNETT:** *Great fun. I love the character, and it's fun to get to play around with him so radically. I guess the answer is both: He believes he's doing right, and also torn by the way he's been used against what might be seen as the common good. He makes a great villain...and a sympathetic one. There's lots of cool story to unpack there.*

**PASTE:** FALLEN WORLD is a set a few thousand years into the future, but should we expect any other Valiant cameos, either from long-lived characters or heroes who've passed down their mantles through the centuries?

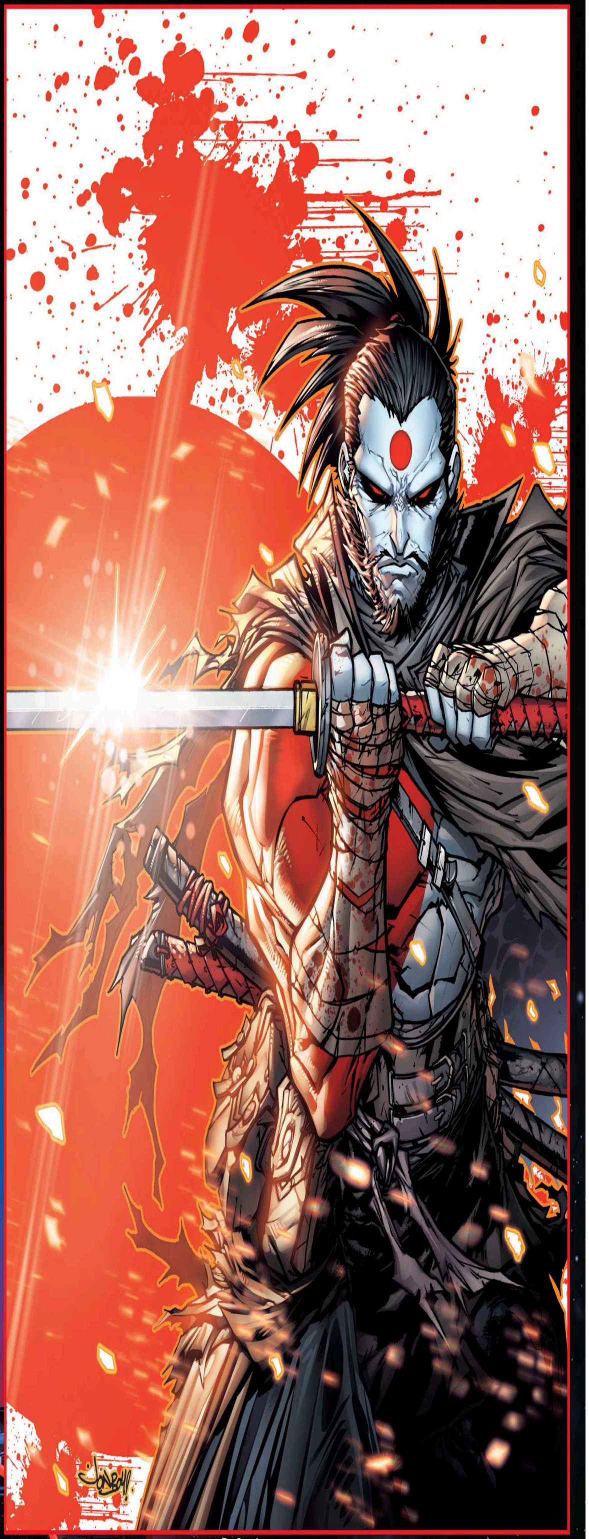
**ABNETT:** *Hmm...maybe. I can see lots of opportunities. And especially, let's say, if you're a Warrior who happens to be Eternal...*

**PASTE:** Adam Pollina, who is the artist on the FALLEN WORLD series, was one of the most popular artists of the late 1990s, and this marks a long-awaited return to a monthly series for him. What's it like collaborating with him and what does he bring to Rai's story?

**ABNETT:** *It's a privilege! Adam's work is very fine indeed. I think this series is going to blow people's socks off.*

---

Special thanks to Steve Foxe of Paste Magazine. For his full interview with Dan Abnett, visit www.pastemagazine.com.



COVER BY JONBOY MEYERS

# PSI-LORDS

## THE SWEEPING SCI-FI SERIES BLASTS OFF THIS SUMMER

In this June's PSI-LORDS, follow the galactic adventures of four amnesiac spacefarers who awake in a strange place with newfound super-powers

*By Heidi MacDonald of The Beat*

This summer, get ready for PSI-LORDS, a new ongoing series from writer Fred Van Lente and artist Renato Guedes that will change the course of the Valiant Universe! Four human space travelers wake up in an unfamiliar place, having no memory of how they got there but each possessing different superpowers. Heidi MacDonald of The Beat talked with Van Lente about what readers should know going in before the series debuts in June.

**THE BEAT:** The Psi-Lords are sort of the "lost clan" of the Valiant Universe, both in story terms and in publishing history. Where were they when last we saw them?

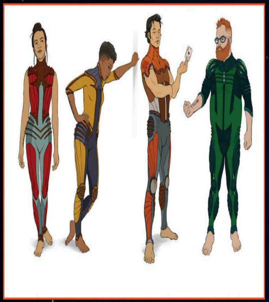
**FRED VAN LENTE:** *The Psi-Lords are as old as the Valiant Universe itself and are as powerful as...well, "gods" are not a concept that has had much of a traction in the VU, but they are vastly powerful psychic beings as close to gods as anyone in the VU is likely to encounter. Their existence has been hinted at a bit in current-era Valiant books, but it's time for them to take center stage at last.*

**THE BEAT:** In the rebooted Valiant Universe the return of the Psi-Lords has been teased several times...but they were no-shows. What made this the right time for their return?

**VAN LENTE:** *There is a specific, important reason, and much of the series is about unraveling that enigma, one that will have monumental impact on the Valiant Universe and everyone in it moving forward. Let's just say...there's something big coming, and the Psi-Lords are both the cause and solution.*

**THE BEAT:** Just who are these Psi-Lords? Do they know they are Psi-Lords?

**VAN LENTE:** *That's what our heroes would like to know - four people, seemingly from completely different walks of life, all wake up in the same, ancient 'REDACTED', with no memory of who brought them there or why. They find they have earth-shaking powers they barely understand - much less control. And the only clue they have is that they've been urged to "find the Psi-Lords."*



CHARACTER DESIGNS BY JONATHAN ARTHUR ASHLEY

**THE BEAT:** Our heroes find themselves in an even more bizarre setting once they escape. Can you talk a little about that?

**VAN LENTE:** *Where they are isn't a single structure, but an entire system made up of trapped, derelict spaceships, all locked in orbit around the same dying, wandering star. Sort of a Sargasso Sea but in outer space, as one of our characters describes it - a wild, untamed post-apocalyptic world of alien metal. Each shipwreck has its own unique culture and species, and our heroes have to explore this strange new world - and, more importantly, defend it. In their quest to find the Psi-Lords, who are somewhere in the Gyre, our heroes - the Quartet, I call them in the scripts - become a motley family of heroes, and the champions the Gyre has been hungering for a long time.*

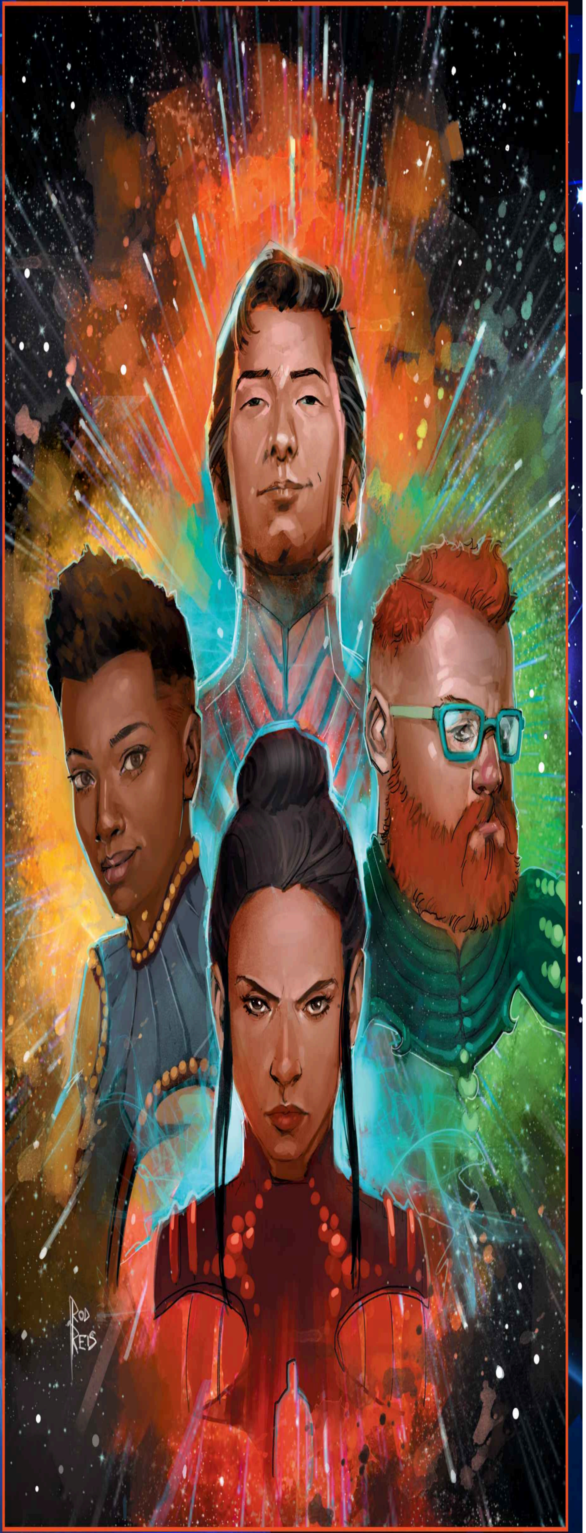
**THE BEAT:** How does this connect to your previous books for Valiant and the universe as a whole?

**VAN LENTE:** *I love world-building. With ARCHER & ARMSTRONG and IVAR, TIMEWALKER I explored a lot of the past of Valiant Earth, and with WAR MOTHER, I got to dip into the 4001 A.D. future era a bit. What's exciting about Psi-Lords is I get to explore more the X-O MANOWAR realm of deep space, other worlds, and new species - although not all of these groups will be completely unfamiliar to Valiant fans. In fact, readers of the current X-O series may instantly see some deep connections!*

**THE BEAT:** What's the most important thing for fans of the old Psi-Lords to know about this series?

**VAN LENTE:** *It will blow your mind.* ■

Special thanks to Heidi MacDonald of The Beat.
For her full interview with Fred Van Lente,
visit www.comicsbeat.com.



COVER BY ROD REIS

Auto
HDR Off

#STAYVALIANT EVERYWHERE

EXPLORE THE VALIANT UNIVERSE ONLINE

**FOLLOW VALIANT ONLINE:**

@ValiantComics

ValiantComics

@ValiantEntertainment

ValiantEntertainment.com

VALIANT

DISCOVER THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT SUPERHERO UNIVERSE
IN COMICS | EACH VOLUME ONE ONLY $9.99

FAITH: DREAMSIDE

X-O MANOWAR (2017)
VOL. 1: SOLDIER

BLOODSHOT SALVATION
VOL. 1: THE BOOK OF REVENGE

HARBINGER RENEGADE
VOL. 1: THE JUDGMENT
OF SOLOMON

ETERNITY

QUANTUM AND WOODY!
(2017) VOL. 1: KISS KISS,
KLANG KLANG

LIVEWIRE VOL. 1: FUGITIVE

SHADOWMAN (2018)
VOL. 1: FEAR OF THE DARK

NINJA-K VOL. 1:
THE NINJA FILES

SECRET WEAPONS

4001 A.D.

BRITANNIA

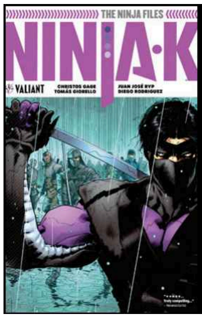
VALIANTENTERTAINMENT.COM | FB.COM/VALIANTCOMICS | TWITTER.COM/VALIANTCOMICS | #STAYVALIANT

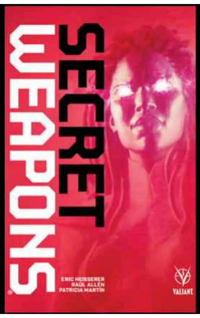
© and TM 2019 VALIANT ENTERTAINMENT LLC.

VALIANT
THE STORY STARTS HERE
Faith
DREAMSIDE
X-O MANOWAR
SOLDIER
BLOODSHOT SALVATION
THE BOOK OF REVENGE
Harbinger RENEGADE
THE JUDGMENT OF SOLOMON
ETERNITY

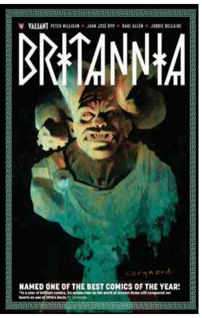
DANIEL KIBBLESMITH / KANO / FRANCIS PORTELA / ANDREW DALHOUSE
QUANTUM
+Woody!
VALIANT

LIVEWIRE
VALIANT
FUGITIVE


THE NINJA FILES
NINJA-K
VALIANT
CHRISTOS GAGE
TOMÁS GIORELLO
JUAN JOSÉ RYP
DIEGO RODRIGUEZ


SECRET
WEAPONS
ERIC HEISSERER
RAÚL ALLÉN
PATRICIA MARTÍN
VALIANT

MATT KINDT
CLAYTON CRAIN
DAVID MACK
VALIANT
4001 A.D.


VALIANT
PETER MILLIGAN
JUAN JOSÉ RYP
RAÚL ALLÉN
JORDIE BELLAIRE
BRITANNIA
NAMED ONE OF THE BEST COMICS OF THE YEAR!

X-O
MANOWAR
CTW
VALIANT
UNLEASHED
FALL 2019